November/December 2012
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P&SN

POLICE AND SECURITY NEWS

The Information Source for Law Enforcement and Homeland Security

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Law Enforcement in 2032

Product Highlight: HOLSTERS

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Less-Lethal Technology

New OC Product Offerings from CTS

Combined Tactical Systems (CTS) has recently enhanced their Aerosol Defense product offerings with new formulations, sizes and delivery options and a new color scheme for product recognition.

CTS **gels** are available in MK-3, MK-4, MK-6 and MK-9 size units. They meet or exceed the performance of a stream and gel; therefore, one can have maximum performance of accuracy and range with suitability to be used outside and in sensitive indoor environments.

Looking like an MK-9 on steroids, the **Titan** offers 20 ounces with the same effective range and accuracy. This jumbo aerosol offers the benefit of greater volume, convenience and price. Compared to the MK-9, you will get 38% more volume, yet it costs 25% less than the MK-21 refill and it has the convenience of being disposable.

The CTS **OC Aerosol Grenade** delivers a fog and it's small enough to fit into an MK-3 pouch. It is a perfect force option for patrol officers in situations where they want to detect, deny or dislodge a suspect from a small enclosure. The flexible dip tube allows complete delivery of the liquid payload, even when the unit is on its side.

Circle 6003 for More Information

New Less-lethal Pistol

The **TMP Less Lethal Pistol**, from PepperBall Technologies, Inc., holds eight PepperBall projectiles and a disposable CO_2 cylinder, and is target accurate to 60 feet and provides area saturations up to 150 feet. The **TMP** is magazine fed to provide rapid reloading and projectile versatility.

Circle 6004 for More Information

New Weapon Launcher

The **BRUZER**™, from BRUZER Less Lethal, is a double-barrel launcher which utilizes cost-effective, "off-the-shelf" 12-gauge less-lethal munitions (including beanbags, rubber buckshot, ball rounds, etc.) with no batteries or chargers required. The launcher's compact size (equivalent to that of an average duty weapon) and lightweight modern materials allow it to be deployed quickly from a vest, belt or leg rig. A built-in tactical rail will accept most standard lights, lasers and recording devices. An optional orange barrel allows officers to identify that a less-lethal launcher is in use.

Circle 6006 for More Information

New MK-9S .7% OC Vapor

Safariland® recently announced that is has released the **First Defense® MK-9S .7% OC Vapor** in its Defense Technology® brand. This pepper spray has an intense concentration of major capsaicinoids which is nonflammable; has an EDW safe formula; and produces a high volume mist. This formulation evaporates in a very short distance, eliminating the need for extensive area clean up or personal decontamination procedures. The **MK-9S** delivers eight to ten short bursts and has an effective range of over 15 feet, with a total weight of 12.7 ounces.

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New Less-lethal Device

The **Alternative**™, from Alternative Ballistics™ LP, is a patented blunt impact device which instantly converts an officer's duty weapon into a less-lethal weapon system, while allowing the officer to maintain his weapon and attention in continuous coverage of the threat. It has been designed to be deployed with one hand while the strong hand holds the duty weapon covering the threat.

With the weapon pointed at the threat and the finger off the trigger, the nonfiring hand opens the holster, allowing the case to unfold downward. Gravity will cause the holster to unfold and drop the entire device (docking unit with attached projectile) into the cupped palm. The **Alternative** is then brought up and affixed to the muzzle so that the officer's hand is never placed directly in front of the barrel.

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New Bean Bag Sock Cartridge

The **Rio Bean Bag Sock**, from Rio Ammunition, Inc., was specifically developed for controlling riot situations, as well as suspect apprehension – through pain compliance. It utilizes #7 lead shot; a cotton "web" weaved, two ply outer cover; and is hand tied, eliminating the need for a hard machine stitch. This design allows for a more stable trajectory over greater distances with the ability to flatten on impact, generating more applied force to a larger portion of the body.

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...and nothing but the truth.

Ramesh Nyberg

LIFE AFTER LIFE CAN BE LIFE CHANGING

Those who complain about the way the ball bounces are often the ones who dropped it.

When I left police work in 2006, things had already begun changing. That's part of the reason I left. I was not happy with the changes, but, then again, I wasn't in charge, so the changes were not going to...change – not for me. And besides, I had been on the job for 27 years and the state of Florida kept telling me that, any time now, they would pay me to go away, so I went.

The atmosphere was one I found interesting. Many of the detectives who had come into homicide four to five years before my departure were complaining. This hassle and that; not having enough of whatever; not getting support from this guy or that commander – stuff we all complain about, regardless of where we work, right?

I couldn't help but look back to my first days in homicide in 1985. Through the first four years I worked there as a detective, we were getting between 280 to 320 homicides a year. That meant that, as a lead detective (you were assigned a case to be in charge of), you were getting about 10 to13 homicides a year assigned to you.

The guys doing the complaining in 2005 were handling about four to five cases a year, if that many. Why? There were less homicides and a few more guys to handle them. But, mostly, violent crime (homicides included) was way down over the last ten years. Now, at the risk of sounding like a bitter grandpa in my rocking chair, I'll add to this mix that many of the tasks we had to handle by hand (like doing background checks, looking up booking photos, finding witnesses) are now computerized. That meant that an investigator could do three days' worth of research and background work in about two hours. A lot of the tasks we used to do – like putting together our own photo lineup displays – were now given to an *analyst* to do.

So, why were they all complaining? It angered me to hear the griping then, but now I understand it completely. We, as a species, are born gripers. We are given an environment and we will never fail to find the negative in it. I found this out by entering another profession: teaching.

I'm not going to tell you that teachers "have it made." They don't. There are plenty of stresses which come with dealing with teenagers and bureaucracies. The bureaucracy part I had down pat already. In that way, it's kind of fun to hear teachers griping and getting all cynical about this copy machine never working right and that policy being unfair. As a former cop, here I am, coming into a work environment which has things called "holidays" (where *everyone* gets them off, all of the time) and summer vacations, a remarkable phenomenon in which you stop working for two and a half months – and *still get paid*. Oh, yeah, there's "spring break," too.

Are you with me so far or is this blowing your mind?

I almost forgot to mention: The bell at last period rings at 2:20 p.m., signaling me to go home. No one says, "We're gonna be here a while...call your wife and tell her you're missing dinner." Now, I *do* have grading and some administrative paperwork to do and that often requires me to stay after the bell in an air-conditioned room for an hour or so (at my discretion, no one else's) to finish that work. But – are you ready for this? – the school district says that, since I teach six periods without a "planning period" for grading and whatnot, they will pay me a "supplement" since I am working on my own time! And, Nyberg, enjoy your supplemental pay over the weekend because we don't want to see you around the school on Saturdays or Sundays.

This November, we've got three days where we are off – not on call or anything – as in "not

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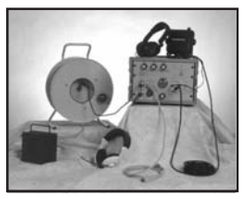

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coming to work," for holidays. On December 24th, we say goodbye to the students and we don't come back to work until January 8th. Yeah, that's two weeks – 17 days if you count the weekends.

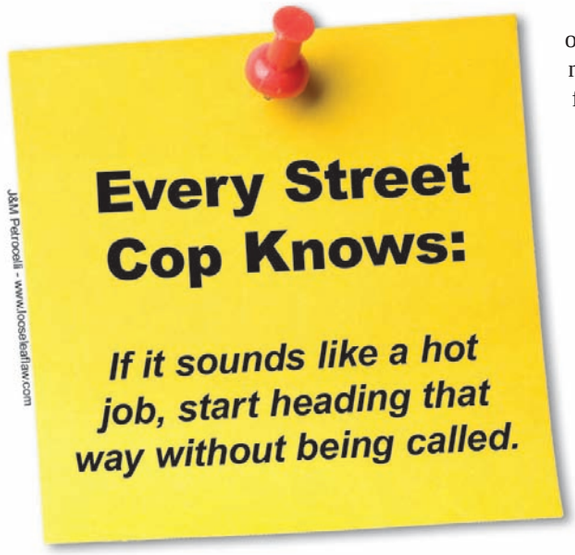
And, there are people *unhappy* here.

You really can't get mad at them, though. They've never been called out of bed at 2:00 a.m. to handle a "crack-icide," or had to work around-the-clock, or go sit outside a courtroom for four hours only to be told to go home and come back tomorrow, or any of those things.

It's the environment they know and so their perception of what is good, bad, fair or unfair, stupid and unreasonable is theirs and theirs alone, and it is valid.

In 1979, when I graduated from the police academy, they were paying me $12,000 a year. That's less than today's minimum wage. As a rookie, I was given a rundown Plymouth Fury to patrol in with no air-conditioning. You had to buy your own body armor then (if you wanted it) and the department wasn't going to reimburse you.

But, I remember a talk I had with an old retired NYPD guy who had worked the Bronx in the 1950s. He was making half that much and *no* car – foot beat only, without a handheld radio, carrying a hand-me-down revolver. Body armor hadn't been invented yet. He said that, if you got in trouble, you banged your nightstick on the sidewalk and that distinctive knocking echo alerted a nearby



officer – hopefully – that you needed a backup. Overtime was unheard-of.

That was his reality. Now, 25 years later, this is my reality and yours and everyone else's. I'm writing this just after the presidential debates between Obama and Romney. Politicians always try to convince the masses that they are going to make things *better*. We all like the sound of that. Right now, we are bitching about $4.00 (and up) per gallon for gasoline. Twenty years from now, they might be wishing it was that low. Some people in other parts of the world already are. Heck, four years from now, after one of these two men has been in office for his first term, we will find things to complain about and to blame him for, won't we?

I'm privileged to have had a career in law enforcement. It taught me so much about life. It still does. Now, in my third year of my teaching career, I walk by the grumbling teachers and I want to kiss the ground of that school I go to every morning (except weekends, holidays, summers, spring break and winter break). It's because I've lived another life and I've been immersed in another reality, so I can compare it to something. Not many people can say that. I guess it's almost like coming home from a country which has a different form of government and really appreciating what you've got in the U.S.A. because you can see it and feel it differently now.

I highly recommend a second career. Having that "other life" in my background doesn't just make me appreciate teaching more, it helps me appreciate teachers and doctors and insurance salespeople and janitors and pizza shop workers. I don't know their realities, but the important thing is that I know they have them and that they are different from mine. It helps me to be less pissed off when someone is rude, or doesn't quite have the phone etiquette you wish everyone had, or even has

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misperceptions about me.

Our reactions to our perceived injustices and difficulties come from the only stuff we know. We can't walk a mile in anyone else's shoes, but I'm glad I had the chance to wear some different ones of my own.

About the Author: Ramesh Nyberg retired from law enforcement in November 2006. He spent 27 years in police work in South Florida, 22 of those years in homicide as an investigator. He has taught homicide investigations and interview/ interrogations at the local police academy. He now teaches criminal justice classes at a Legal Affairs Academy program in a magnet high school in Miami. His students frequently read the copies of Police and Security News *he brings to the classroom.*

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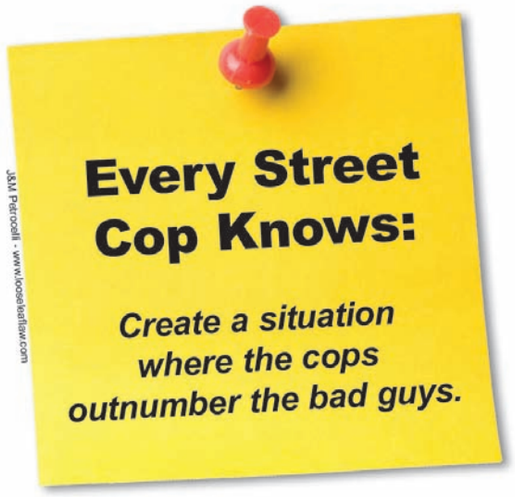

Michael Carpenter

IDENTIFYING THE WINNERS IN YOUR DEPARTMENT

Everybody loves a winner.
What are ten simple secrets for becoming one?

When you look around your department, it's pretty easy to identify the "winners." A winner is the captain who had a meteoric rise to his current rank. It could be the detective who consistently cracks big cases. It could even be the patrol officer who seems to just naturally "stumble" over heavy-duty criminals while on patrol.

It's great to have winners on your team in any department or unit. At first glance, these winners just seem to come by their winning ways naturally. But, a closer analysis of their traits and habits can reveal a pattern of conduct which MAKES them all winners in their respective areas of expertise.

Here are ten traits of those people you readily identify as "winners":

1. They maintain a positive attitude. Winners are optimists. They view the world as their own personal playground. They have a good sense of humor and laugh easily. They always see the positive – not the negative – side of a situation. As a result, they are always "up" and projecting a positive attitude toward their work and their coworkers.

2. They solve problems. When obstacles appear in their path, they view them as only a temporary situation. They enjoy the challenge of finding a solution, clearing the obstacle and moving forward. In general, they work to solve their own problems without having to get their supervisors involved. That makes them appear even more competent to their bosses and peers.

3. They make decisions. Winners are decisive. They quickly gather the facts in a difficult situation, formulate possible solutions and choose what they believe is the best option. By making such decisions, they get things done. While others are still gathering facts, the winner already has the results from their decision and has taken action as a result.

4. They seek and enjoy new experiences. Winners enjoy police work because no two days are alike. Winners enjoy the thrill of the unknown. They volunteer for special assignments to expand their horizons and gain new experiences. The resulting broad-based knowledge and experience allow them to bring more to their jobs than the other less adventurous members of their unit; therefore, their overall performance becomes better.

5. They manage their time effectively. When the goal is to arrest criminals, winners go where the criminals are. They focus their activities where they can get the highest rate of return for the time they spend. They recognize that they generally won't find criminals in the locker room, in a coffee shop or in a restaurant. They will find criminals on the streets, during traffic stops and while actively pursuing investigations. As a result, their "numbers" are higher than other members of their units.

6. They invest in self-improvement. Although their self-improvement efforts may not be readily visible, winners work hard at being good at their jobs. They get technical knowledge, as well as new ideas, by reading and attending courses and seminars. As a result, winners are the most knowledgeable and effective members of their unit or specialty area.

7. They are friendly toward others. The old adage about catching more flies with honey than with vinegar is appropriate here. Whether dealing with coworkers, citizens or criminals, winners are appropriately friendly with all. As a result, coworkers like them and readily help them when needed. Citizens are happy with their performance and the criminals are more willing to open up to them and provide information or confessions to them.

8. They serve the needs of others. Winners, at any level, try to help their fellow man or woman. In helping to solve others' problems, they build a rapport, develop a friendship and show genuine interest in the needs of others. Winners are generally paid back in kind for their efforts on behalf of others.

9. They balance work, play and rest. For all of their intense efforts at work, winners also recognize that work is only one aspect of their lives. They balance their success at work with family, friends and off duty activities. They are often winners in all of these areas because they balance their lives appropriately.

10. They control their own destinies. Winners are in control of their performance and their lives. They know how to perform their jobs well while avoiding the problems which plague others. Because they are in charge of their lives, they look like they are in charge of their lives. And, that's why they are so easy to spot in your department.

Share these ten simple secrets for becoming a winner with your subordinates. Over time, you'll

be amazed at how many more winners you will have on your team. Of course, then they will also want to work for the winner in you.

About the Author: Mike Carpenter has been on the police side of criminal justice for more than 25 years. He started out as a city cop and then went to a state police agency (trooper, detective and patrol sergeant). After that, he worked for the New York State Police Division of Criminal Justice as a police training specialist.

Currently, he teaches criminal justice courses at a college in upstate New York. He has two master's degrees; has been a certified police trainer for more than 20 years; has written numerous articles; and operates a police management consulting business (www.policemanagement.com).

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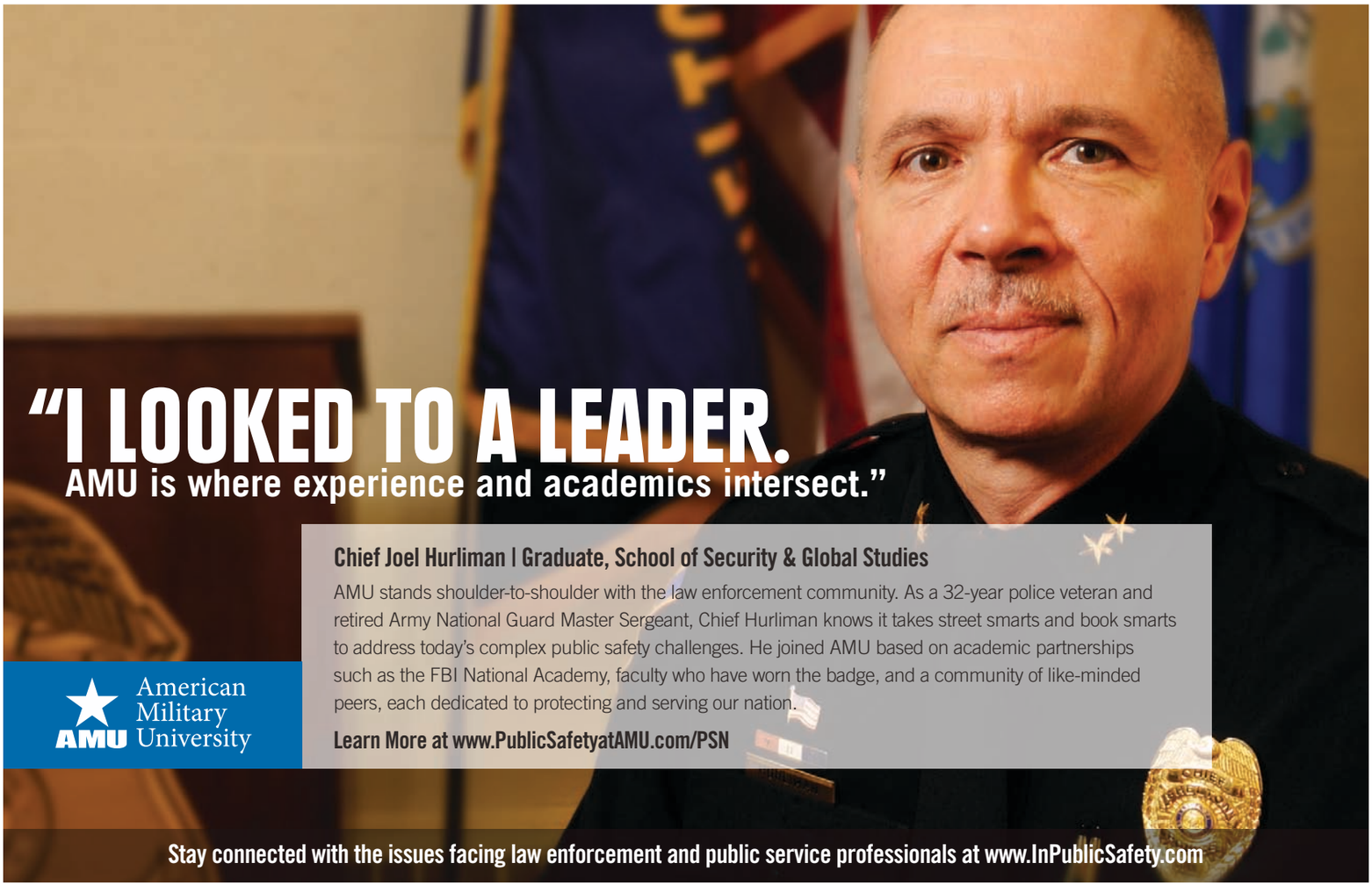

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Product Highlight

On and Off Duty Holsters

CROSSBREED HOLSTERS, LLC

The **Last Ditch** allows the uniformed police officer to carry a backup gun within easy reach and completely concealed. Based on CrossBreed Holster's Ohai model, the **Last Ditch** is intended to attach to the VELCRO® portion of an officer's ballistic vest and is further secured by an elastic closure band. The uniform shirt then covers both. The **Last Ditch** is intended for small .380s and other small flat guns.

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The **Model 892/B892** ambidextrous concealment holster is constructed of genuine leather with a suede lining to protect your gun's finish and offers these carry options: a spring steel, removable clip allows you to wear the holster on a belt up to 1 3/4" wide or directly on your trousers; or you can utilize belt slots for an additional slide on/slide off option. The **Model 892/B892** is available in two sizes to accommodate most weapons and comes in both brown and black.

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DESANTIS GUNHIDE®

DeSantis Gunhide has two holster versions for the Springfield Armory XDS .45. The **Cozy Partner**® has a memory band which retains the holster's shape and makes one-handed reholstering easy. This holster must be worn with a belt; a 1 3/4" split belt loop is standard. It is available in tan or black unlined leather.

The **Thumb Break Mini Slide** is made from premium saddle leather; has double seam stitching; and has a highly detailed mold

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CROSSBREED HOLSTERS, LLC

The **SuperTuck**, designed by Mark Craighead, is CrossBreed Holster's most popular and comfortable concealable holster. The **SuperTuck** is adjustable for ride depth and cant and is available in premium grade cowhide leather, as well as horsehide. All of the CrossBreed holsters come with a two week Try it Free Guarantee and a lifetime warranty.

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GOULD & GOODRICH™

The **702 Wallet Holster**, constructed from high performance, anti-print nylon, shields the weapon's profile in your pocket. A nonslip outer layer facilitates a smooth draw and ensures that the weapon stays in place. The **702** accommodates most .22, .25, and .32 pocket pistols and revolvers; is available in right-hand or left-hand versions; and is made in the USA.

Circle 6023 for More Information

HOGUE INC.

The **Hogue PowerSpeed™ Automatic Retention Holster** combines a compact design with a fully automatic retention system. Designed with a light, yet durable, aerospace polymer construction, the holster was molded to match features of specific firearms. With its interchangeable ergonomic hip paddle and belt plate option, along with a cant adjustment adapter, the **PowerSpeed Automatic Retention Holster** is light, secure, and comfortable.

Circle 6024 for More Information

DESANTIS GUNHIDE®

The **Pro Stealth**™ and **Tuck-This II**® holsters are both available for the Smith & Wesson® M&P Shield™ 9/40. The **Pro Stealth** nylon holster contains a rugged 1 3/4" powder coated black spring clip to keep this concealed carry holster securely anchored to your belt. An ambidextrous spare magazine pouch is standard for auto loader models.

The **Tuck-This II** is an IWB holster custom honed from heavily padded 1050D black ballistic nylon and its belt tab can swing to accommodate almost any wearable position. A custom tab allows the shirt to be tucked in between the gun and trousers for near total concealment.

Circle 6025 for More Information

PHALANX CORPORATION

The **FORCE CONTINUUM® Model** Flash® Smart Holster® automatically locks a loaded pistol into an unfireable, out of battery condition in one second; drawing automatically transitions to in battery and ready to fire in one half second. The pistol can be key locked in the holster which accommodates all rail mounted lights and lasers without compromising draw or reholstering; a double locking tactical pin offers additional safety. A baton can be mounted on the front of the holster which frees up belt space.

Circle 6026 for More Information

SAFARILAND®

The **Bianchi® Allusion™** series of concealment holsters consists of three initial models: the Model 125 Consent™, Model 130 Classified™, and the Model 135 Suppression™. All are formed with premium high-grade, full-grain leather which is wrapped and laminated around a thermal molded synthetic core. This synthetic liner promotes a very quick draw and effortless reholstering. Further, it resists wear during daily use. Each holster also houses a trigger guard detent for enhanced weapon retention.

Circle 6027 for More Information

Walt Rauch

COMPARING THE BERETTA PX4C STORM AND NANO SUBCOMPACT PISTOLS

The Px4C shares features found in the Beretta 92 Series and adds to them in a big way, while the Nano is a "minimalist" semiauto.

Beretta now has two polymer and steel subcompact pistols – the Px4C Storm Subcompact and the Nano. The Px4C is the subcompact version of the Px Storm (now the Px4), introduced in 2005, which was followed by a compact and, now, this subcompact version. Both the Px4C and the Nano are offered in 9x19mm or .40S&W chambering. The samples discussed here are in 9x19mm. The Nano is the new kid on the block. Both are purpose-built to address the needs and wants of particular handgun audiences. The larger Px4C holds 13 rounds, while the Nano holds six rounds.

The smaller Nano has only one external control – a magazine release. If you count the trigger drop safety, the total rises to all of two. The Nano also comes in with a lower MSRP of $475, compared to the $550 MSRP of the Px4C Storm.

Beretta Model Px4C Storm Subcompact Handgun

The Px4C follows on the Px4 Storm, as noted above, which was a first for Beretta, as the Storm was the company's first polymer framed, centerfire handgun. At the time, I reviewed the pistol for P&SN and, looking back and comparing the new Px4C Storm to the original, there have been some changes made.

The Px4C Storm has four controls (top) to only one on the Nano (bottom).

Reviewing what I wrote at the time, I noted how the Storm had a number of options: choice of backstrap, slide stop, sights and magazine catch button, as well as calibers – 9x19mm and .40S&W – which are continued with the Px4C Storm.

With the trigger system used in this sample, the ambidextrous manual safety/hammer decocker must be manually moved to decock the rounded and serrated external hammer (which has a half cock notch) and must be moved to its original position to fire. Three changeable backstraps – small, medium and large – are included.

Features

As delivered, the Px4C Storm has two magazines with removable polymer base plates. One of these has a Beretta patented, "extendable" SNAP GRIP base plate which, when the gun is gripped, allows the little finger of one's grasping hand to press downward enough so that the forward lip of the SNAP GRIP base plate unsnaps and the now downward hinged part becomes a lower and deeper finger rest, to give a large hand a better grip on the pistol.

Optional accessories include a lanyard loop, four additional rear sight heights, two additional sizes of magazine release buttons and an extended slide stop.

The supplied square notch rear and ramped front sights have white dots for quick sighting and are adjustable for horizontal sight corrections.

The familiar Beretta ambidextrous decocker/safety levers are wider and lengthened to make them off center from their axes – this is said to

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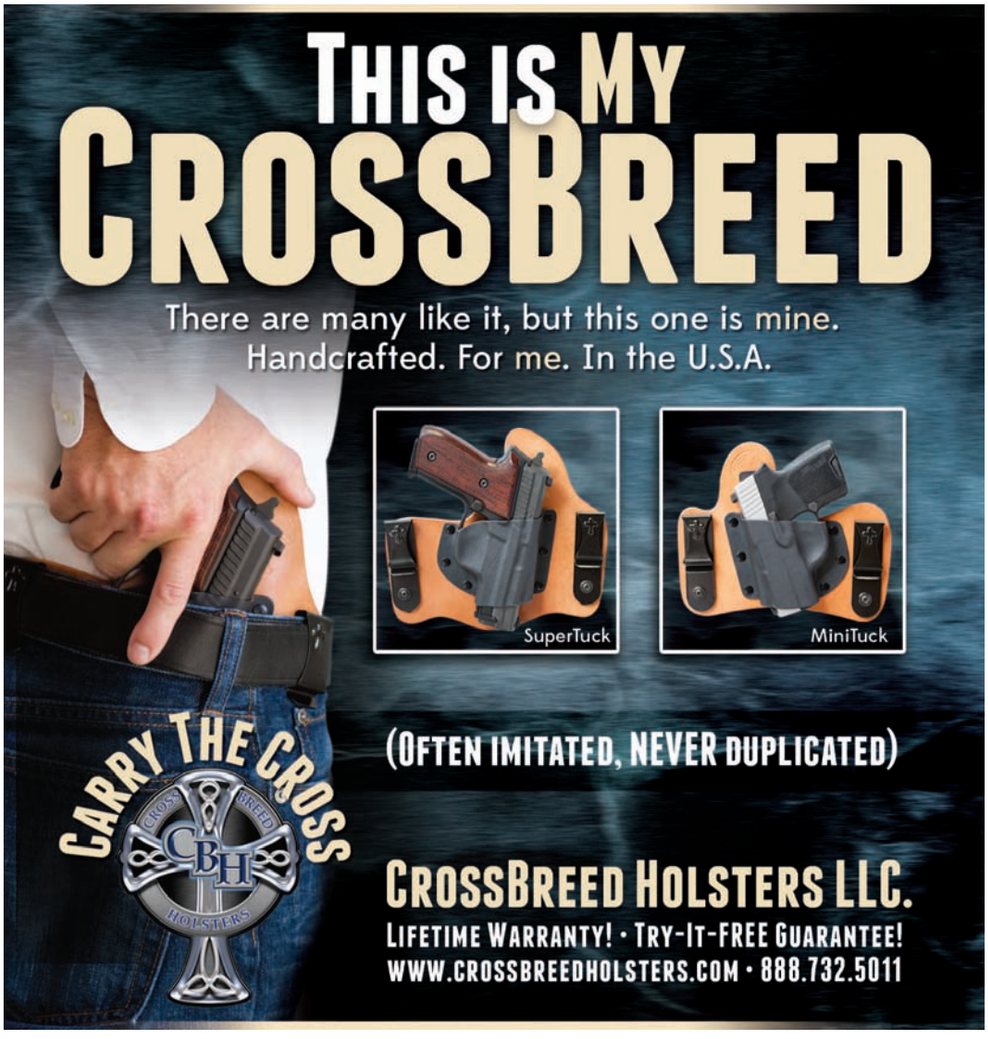

Circle 6031 for More Information

Both the Nano (left) and the Px4C Storm (right) use a three white dot sighting system.

inhibit inadvertent movement while the widened lever shelf assists deliberate operation. Where the trigger system dictates, a skeletonized external hammer is present, as are the external levers. The slide has three matching flats cut into each side and the slide tapers toward the muzzle, with diagonal grasping grooves front and rear (these latter grooves are forward of the levers).

Cleaning

The Px4C Storm uses a modified Browning barrel slide and frame firing system. A captive recoil spring is beneath the barrel, whose chamber hood locks into the wide and ample ejection port.

Fieldstripping for cleaning or inspection is relatively easy. After clearing the pistol, lock the slide back and rotate the frame mounted and grooved takedown lever 90 degrees counterclockwise. The slide assembly is then removed forward from four short, frame mounted rails. The captive recoil spring on the guide rod requires only slight pressure to lift it free, allowing the barrel to be removed down and out to the rear of the slide. No further disassembly is necessary.

Removing the U-shaped backstrap retaining spring of the Px4C Storm allows ease of changing the backstrap.

The dustcover has a short M1913 rail and the trigger guard is round, as is the smooth face of the pivoting trigger. The magazine catch is reversible and the checkered faced catch button is removable and can be replaced with two others, as there are three sizes – small, medium and large. (More on this later.) The supplied slide stop or catch is narrow grooved and an extended version is available. The inner curve at the top of the backstrap beneath the rear of the slide is rather

pronounced, such that it allows for a high grip, yet does not allow any hammer or slide "bite."

The front strap and the removable lower portion of the backstrap are crosshatched and the grip area is nicely contoured as well. And, as I noted earlier, the backstrap is changeable. It is held to the frame with a U-shaped retaining spring, with its arms extending up into the frame and the horizontal base of the "U" at the rear of the magazine well. Pry the spring out enough so that you can fully remove it from the frame. Position the selected replacement backstrap on the frame and press until it is fully seated in the frame.

The Beretta Nano Pocket Pistol

The new Beretta Nano pocket pistol is all business. In short, it is a purposely "plain-Jane" pocket pistol. The Nano is small, with a long double-action type trigger pull of its striker firing system; it is thin, lightweight, has no protruding edges and has all of one external operating control – the magazine release. This release is user reversible, with instructions on doing this in the owner's manual.

The magazine capacity is six rounds of 9x9mm cartridges or seven rounds if a round is chambered. Two six round metal magazines, with removable and extended base plates and five cartridge inspection holes on either side, are supplied.

The Nano frame, according to Beretta, is made of "Technopolymer," a term of art for the fiberglass impregnated resin material used for this part. Other modern pocket pistols use formula variations

The Striker Deactivation Button, indicated, is easily mistaken for being only a very small cross pin.

of this material, including GLOCK®, Smith & Wesson®, Heckler & Koch and Walther, to name but a few. Obviously, this material is well established as being quite durable, as is the Beretta Pronox metal finish treatment of the slide and barrel, with a blued overfinish.

Features

The Nano's front strap and backstrap have impressed checkering, while the rear area of the grip has a very lightly coarsened surface. Matching depressions forward on the frame past the trigger guard opening serve as "finger" placement indicators when handling the pistol. The frame slopes inward and down behind the trigger guard. At the top right rear of the frame is the Striker Deactivation Button, while forward and directly above the trigger guard is the Disassembly Pin (more on these later).

Beretta compacts the operating controls, including the trigger, into one unit termed the "chassis"; this is the serialized "gun" portion of the pistol. While this unit is removable, a witness opening is in the top left side of the pistol, allowing the serial number to be seen without disassembly.

The stainless steel chassis is held in the frame by two cross pins. Detailed instructions and photos of how to remove the chassis from the frame, along with photos of the chassis itself, are in the owner's manual.

The beauty of this chassis system (which has also been done by some other manufacturers) is that the frame can be replaced with another frame size, allowing users to have both a highly concealable handgun and a larger version if the owner's wants or needs change. It also enables a more thorough cleaning if the owner wishes.

Specs

Nano specifications include the following: It is striker-fired, with no external hammer, and has three dot sights which are held in dovetail cuts and additionally secured with Allen screws. The rear sight is adjustable for horizontal sighting corrections. On this sample, I had to soak the screws for an hour with Liquid Wrench® before I could loosen them. After doing so, and with a nonmarring punch

Circle 6032 for More Information

and light hammer, I made the adjustment needed, as the gun shot a bit left for me at 12 yards. The magazine catch is at the lower left rear of the larger trigger guard and is reversible.

The Nano is 5.63 inches long, .90 inches wide and 4.17 inches high. It has a barrel length of 3.07 inches and weighs 17.67 ounces (unloaded). The trigger pull on this sample broke at 7.75 or eight pounds, depending on where I placed the trigger pull gauge arm on the face of the curved trigger. The trigger has a centered drop safety which protrudes from the trigger face. The safety is reflexively disengaged by depressing it with a complete pull of the trigger.

A large external extractor is at the center right rear of the ejection port, with six diagonal grasping grooves at the rear of the tapered slide. The forward face of the captive dual recoil spring is visible in the front face of the slide when the slide is forward.

Slide Catch

The Nano has no external slide catch. If you want to lock the slide back, you must use an empty magazine. To release the slide, a slight rearward tug is all that is needed. I've read elsewhere that this lack is a serious negative.

Disassembly is as follows. As the striker may well be cocked, it must be lowered to remove the slide, but the pistol does not have to be fired to release the striker. Pushing inward on the Striker Deactivation Button on the frame with a narrow pin or the tip of a ballpoint pen will do the trick.

Then, after releasing the striker, with a coin, cartridge case rim or other such tool, rotate the Disassembly Pin one quarter turn counterclockwise; the slide assembly can then be moved forward off the frame. It is not necessary to remove the Disassembly Pin from the frame. The captive dual recoil spring can be lifted out, as can the barrel. Reassembly is in the reverse order.

At the Range

I took both pistols to the range and began with the Nano which I found comfortable to shoot. It is stone reliable and as accurate (or not) as you are able to manipulate the faux double-action trigger which, for me, feels as good as, or better than, most modern double-action pocket revolvers.

The grip angle and the impressed checkering both helped keep the pistol seated in my hand when quickly firing multiple shots. I had two friends also

Circle 6033 for More Information

Circle 6034 for More Information

Representative five shot groups fired at 15 yards with the Px4C Storm (left) and the Nano (right)

Technology, Strategic Deployment Improve Bedford (NH) Police Response Times

NEWS

Information sharing, report automation and video technology are just some of the ways Bedford (NH) police have increased officers' road patrol time and enabled them to respond to more incidents. Officials have responded to funding cuts by making smart investments: monthly video roll call training, for instance, which officers can watch from their cruisers; an intranet for real-time information sharing; and a digital records management system which is expected to save $4,000 worth of paper and ink.

The investments come as the number of incidents has climbed from more than 18,000 in 2009 to an expected 25,000 plus for 2012. In response, the agency will turn its attention to intelligence and data driven policing technologies.

shoot the Nano and none complained about its "two finger" grip. I did, however, find one shooter who fired a Nano at a trade show and said the gun literally was jumping out of her hand with every shot. As she's an experienced, longtime action pistol competitor, the Nano grip design is simply not for her. Actually, her experience highlights the advantages of "trying before buying," if at all possible.

At the Lower Providence Rod and Gun Club Range in Oaks, PA, my friends Irv Gill and Joe Mulligan helped get some rounds downrange against Birchwood Casey Shoot•N•C® bull's-eye and Warren IDPA training targets. Accuracy work was done while seated, using our shooting bench as a rest. After acclimating myself to the Nano's long trigger pull, I managed to shoot a few five shot groups of less than three inches, with one group of five shot at 15 yards measuring two inches. Not surprisingly, the more I shot the gun, the better the results were.

Irv and Joe opted for freestyle ventilation of the Warren targets. Joe found the magazine's extended base plate catching on part of his shooting hand when loading which went along with my finding, yet again, that my normal two-handed shooting grip doesn't work with a little pocket auto, as my shooting finger eventually winds up digging into my support hand. Irv was a bit more noncommittal, as he favors revolvers for most any application, but he did say the gun handled well and was accurate.

In review, while in overall size, weight and magazine capacity, the Nano doesn't stand above others of its kind – with the others being smaller, lighter or holding more ammo – it is small, light, accurate, reliable and holds enough 9x19mm ammo for self-defense and does so at a reasonable price.

Joe and Irv did similar shooting with the Px4C Storm and I shot some more groups. Not surprisingly, I found doing so much easier, what with a slightly larger and heavier pistol, along with a decent six pound, single-action and 11 pound double-action trigger pull weight.

Circle 6035 for More Information

Comparable sizes and front strap details of the Px4C (left) and the Nano (right)

The sights were easy to pick up and, as a bonus, I had good hits. Also, since I had repeatedly decocked the gun to fire both DA and SA, I found the decock lever easy to use, as was the slide stop.

I then installed the smaller backstrap and shot some basic exercises. Curiously, I liked the smaller grip. Did I have any negatives? Sure. I don't care for the wide decock/safety levers, but they do seem to be less prone to accidental movement.

Comparing the Two

Comparison of the two is somewhat of an "apples and oranges" problem, as the two pistols are not – and are not claimed to be – equals. The only real negative, which applies to both, is that they are, and feel, top-heavy, with the weight being most noticeable toward their muzzles, as their slides outweigh their frames. Only being able to take a two finger grip doesn't help either, as more "grip" is needed. The Px4C Storm gets the nod here, for when its magazine with the snap down finger rest is used, a three finger grip can then be had. Adding an extended base pad to the Nano would also do this, but then you wouldn't have the ultraconcealability, one of the main reasons for buying the pistol in the first place.

The Px4C Storm is also the easier one to shoot well, as it offers a shorter and lighter single-action trigger pull, particularly when firing quickly. However, the price for this is not only the increased cost of including the DA/SA trigger, but also the larger frame which is required. Trite as the saying may be, there really is no "free lunch," in guns or anywhere else. Also, for many, a manual safety is a must which the Nano lacks. Again, the Px4C Storm gets the nod. In contrast, it is one more movement – making it off safe – which must be done before the gun can fire...but will you remember to do so when blindsided by a threat?

To the overall good, both pistols are reasonably priced, with the Nano with a MSRP of just $475 and the Px4C Storm at $550, as noted earlier. Finally, both are backed by a company with a 500 year history of quality firearms manufacture which

CHRONOGRAPH RESULTS: BERETTA PX4C STORM & NANO*

The following results were obtained using a Master Gamma Chrony® chronograph at 300 feet above sea level, with an ambient temperature of 65 degrees. Pistols used: Beretta Nano, caliber 9x19mm, 3.07" barrel, serial number NU000167; and Px4C Storm, caliber 9x19mm, 3.0" barrel, serial number PZ515581. All are five shot averages. *Data taken using the Nano pistol.

Ammunition	Velocity (fps)	Standard Deviation
Federal Hydra-Shok® 147-grain JHP	933	7.4
Hornady® 124-grain JHP/XTP	1024	7.1
Winchester® 115-grain FMJ	1051	19.0

Circle 6037 for More Information

BERETTA PX4C STORM Subcompact
Technical Specifications

Caliber: 9x19mm
Overall length: 6.2"
Overall height: 4.8"
Overall width: 1.4"
Barrel length: 3.0"
Sights: Three dot low profile, windage adjustable
Sight radius: 4.6"
Weight: 26.1 ounces (with empty magazine)
Magazine capacity: 13 + 1 rounds; two magazines supplied, one with "SNAP GRIP" feature
Frame: Technopolymer
Slide material: Stainless steel
Slide finish: Sandblasted, phosphatized and Bruniton coated
Barrel finish: Bead blasted matte
Safeties: Manual safety/decocker (Model F), automatic firing pin block
MSRP: $550

BERETTA NANO
Technical Specifications

Caliber: 9x19mm
Overall length: 5.63"
Overall height: 4.17"
Overall width: .90"
Barrel length: 3.07"
Sights: Three dot low profile
Sight radius: 4.92"
Weight: 17.67 ounces
Magazine capacity: 6 + 1 rounds; two magazines supplied
Frame body: Technopolymer
Frame chassis: Stainless steel insert
Slide material: 4140 stainless steel
Slide finish: Pronox
Features: Striker-fired; trigger drop safety; windage adjustable rear sight
MSRP: $475

is reflected in these products. Experience and longevity do matter!

For more information, contact Beretta USA Corp., 17601 Beretta Drive, Accokeek, MD 20607; phone (800)237-3882; or go to the Web site at **www.berettausa.com**.

Circle 6040 on the Reader Service Card

About the Author: Upon receiving his BS degree from Carnegie Tech and completing service as a Special Agent in U.S. Army Intelligence, Walt Rauch was a Special Agent with the U.S. Secret Service and an Investigator with the Warrant Unit, First Judicial District, PA.

Rauch is also a writer and lecturer in the firearms field. He is published regularly in national and international publications.

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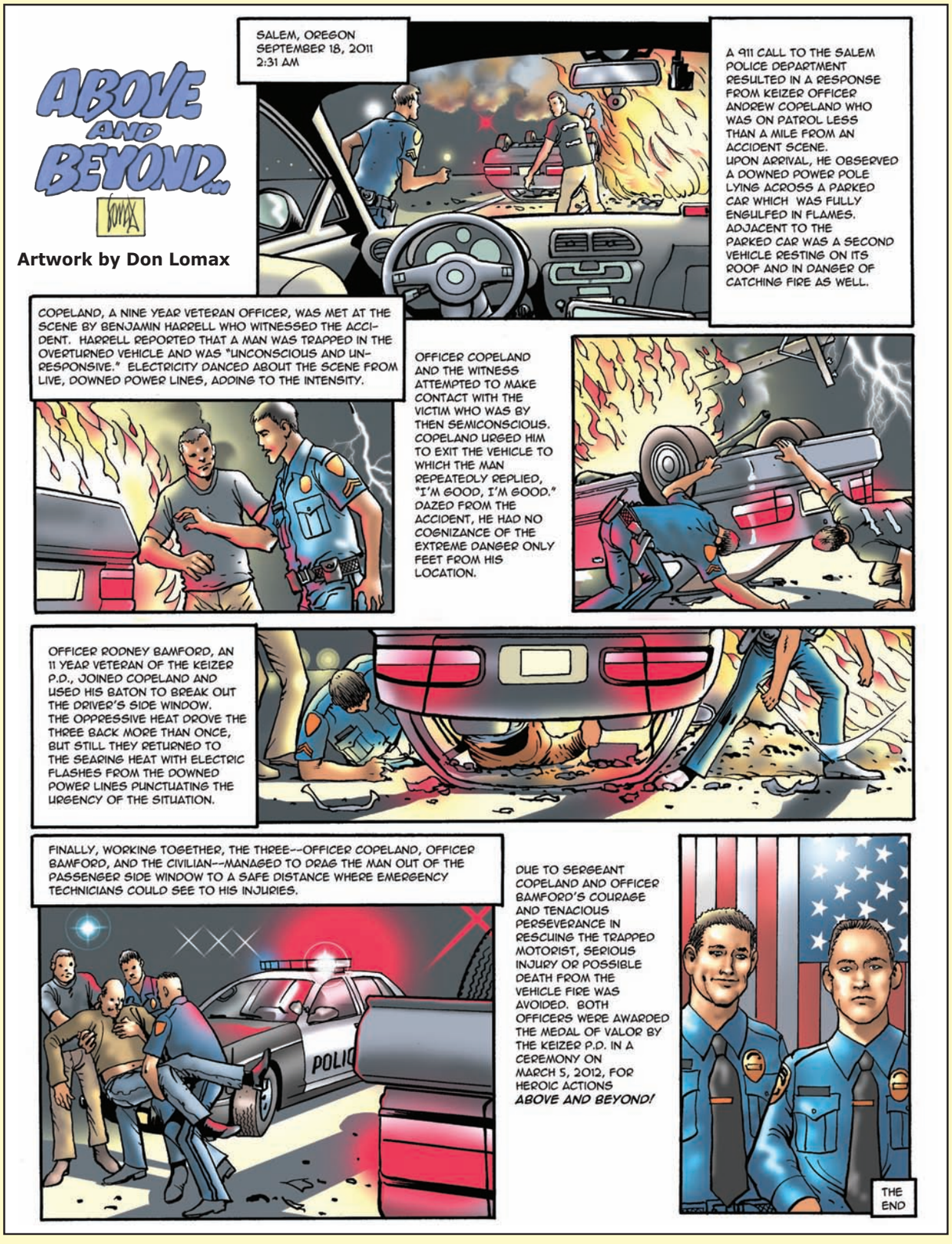

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Please direct all submissions and/or questions to:
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Drones under Consideration for Public Safety, but IACP Encourages Careful Consideration

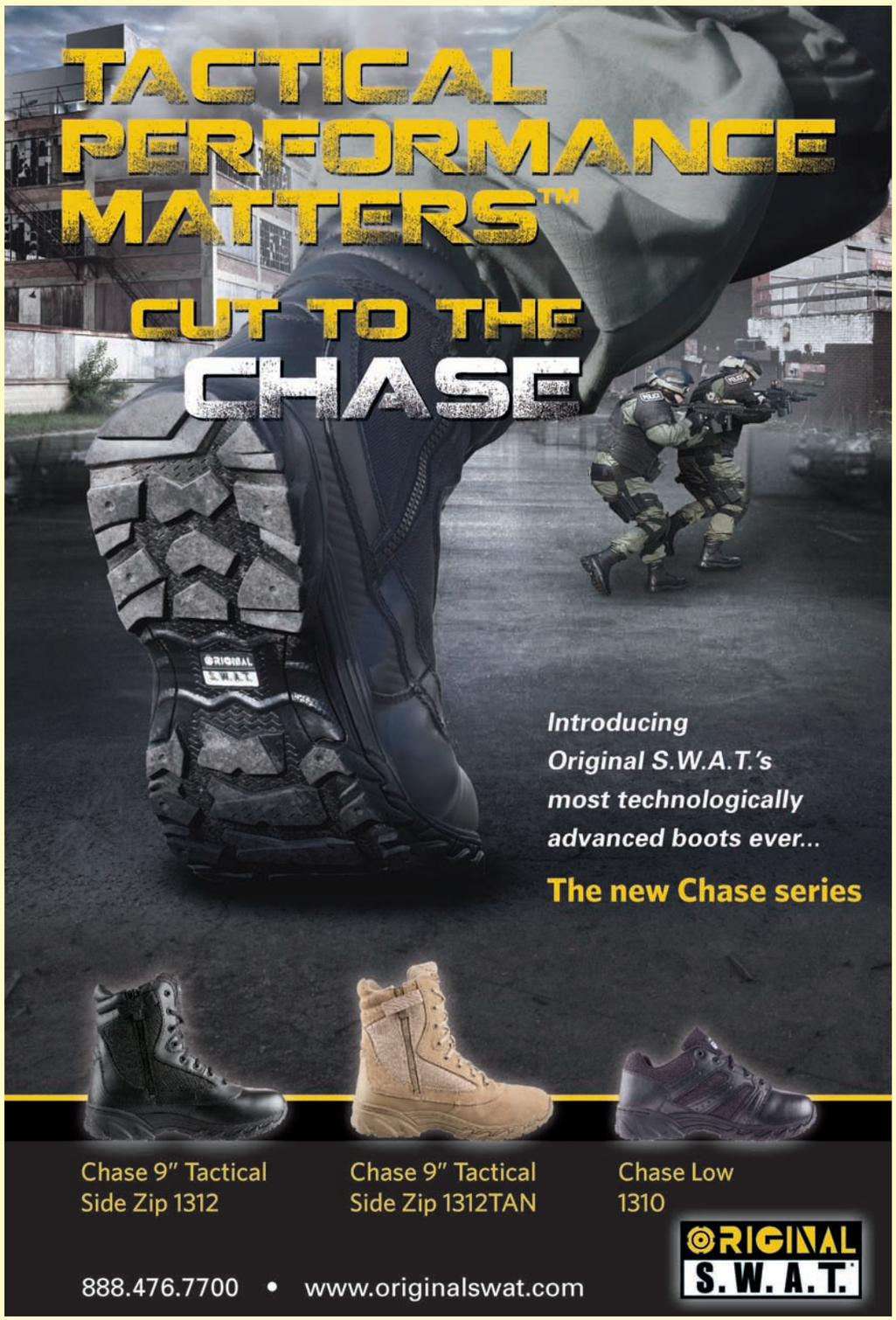
Both police and firefighters are testing Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) – drones – for a diverse range of operations including search and rescue; traffic collision scene mapping; hostage situations and other standoffs; hazardous materials and natural disaster response; and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) threat detection. Driven by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the tests would result in smaller, lighter and less expensive drones (compared to military models like the Predator) being deployed in US airspace.

To accelerate deployment, Congress passed a law this year to ease existing Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) restrictions, and it's expected that first responder use will be allowed as early as next year. On the other hand, the International Association of Chiefs of Police wants local law enforcement agencies to limit their use of drones, including not arming them, even with less than lethal weapons.

Civil rights advocates and some federal legislators have already resisted the use of battlefield technology in domestic law enforcement, in part because some drones can be weaponized: They can shoot stun projectiles, tear gas, or rubber balls.

As a result, the IACP has issued guidelines intended to help police frame drone use in terms of public safety, rather than military style operations. The guidelines strongly discourage weapons use because their effective deployment is unlikely, as is public acceptance. The guidelines also call for police to obtain search warrants before using drones to collect evidence, since such deployment could overstep reasonable expectations of privacy.

While the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) recognized the IACP's effort, it also wanted to see stronger guidelines. In that vein, legislation proposed by Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky would require police to obtain warrants for all uses except border patrol and exigent circumstances. Another bill, proposed by Representative Edward Markey of Massachusetts, would require police to explain how they would protect data unrelated to criminal investigations.



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Photos by Raymond Holt, Michigan State Police

Sgt. James G. Post

TRANSPORTATION 2013

P&SN presents its 15th annual report on the latest technical advances in police vehicles, components and accessories.

Greetings and welcome to our annual comprehensive review of all that's new in the exciting world of law enforcement transportation – the vehicles and the equipment we put on them and in them. There are a couple of "good news" items we need to mention. First of all, if you are reading this, it means the Mayan calendar was not worth the stone it was carved on and we're all still here! Second, and far more important, is the fact that law enforcement buyers have the greatest variety of vehicles available to choose from EVER. There are FWD sixes, RWD eights, 4WD, AWD, turbos, four-door sedans, pickups and SUVs; literally a vehicle for every law enforcement application in North America and for every budget. Visually, there are no great surprises with the 2013 cop cars. The current Charger was introduced as a 2011; the Caprice and Impalas as 2012s; and the Ford Interceptors were born last year as 2013s. As you are aware, even though exterior changes may not occur yearly, it's what is beneath the skin that counts. And, we'll have those changes for you.

Chevy earned this year's bragging rights for both the fastest sedan and SUV.

Our review will consist of the following sections: first, cars and SUVs with the MSP (Michigan State Police) test results (where applicable); second, motorcycles with the MSP results; third, lights and sirens; fourth, storage and mounts; and fifth, everything else. All sections will be presented alphabetically, so sit back, break out your highlighter, and enjoy the ride.

PURSUIT AND SPECIAL SERVICE VEHICLES

Chevrolet

Once again, Chevrolet has bragging rights for recording the fastest speeds at this year's Michigan State Police Vehicle Evaluations, with BOTH the fastest sedan (Caprice at 154 mph) and SUV (Tahoe at 137 mph). Of course, we all know that, on today's electronically controlled engines, savvy engineers and hot-rodders can tweak top speed limiters easier than you can remove a governor on your Ryder® rental truck. These top speeds are the

factory settings as determined by each vehicle's capabilities by the manufacturers.

Chevrolet's breadwinner is the new RWD Caprice built by Holden in Australia. It offers either a potent 6.0L V-8 or a 3.6L V-6. The Caprice V-6 topped out at a very respectable 146 mph – faster than the two V-6 Chargers and all of the Ford Interceptors, except the turbo version. The Caprice V-8 also had the second best 0-60 and 0-100 times, beaten only by the turbocharged Interceptor. These are the times most critical to agencies with freeway enforcement duties, as they represent the times necessary to reach intercept speeds, either traversing an on-ramp or starting from a standing stop. The Caprice is available in marked and unmarked versions.

Chevrolet covers other bases, too, offering two versions of their proven FWD Impala, also available in two versions: plain wrapper or patrol. The Impala's new 3.6L V-6 is a real sleeper, too. Witnesses at the MSP tests expecting another ho-hum, mundane six-pack speed run were blown away by the Impala's top speed of 149 mph which tied Dodge's 5.7L HEMI® and even beat their own cousin, the Caprice V-6 by three miles per hour! The Impala's estimated city fuel usage beats all the V-6 competition – the Interceptor (nonturbo), the Charger (3.07 rear gear) and the Caprice, as well – with 28 mpg, a critical factor for city police department decision makers.

Dodge's HEMI® powered Charger delivered the second highest top speed.

Chevy's triple threat continues with the pursuit-rated Tahoe which is available in 2WD or 4WD. Powered by the venerable 5.3L V-8, it bested the only other SUV tested, the Ford Interceptor Utility which is based on the Explorer. The top speeds were 137 mph (Chevy) and 132 mph (Ford). In the drag race, Ford led at 0-60 (7.96 secs to 8.04 secs), but the Bow Tie passed them and hit the best 0-100 (21.07 secs to 21.13 secs). The Tahoe also recorded a better stopping distance than the Interceptor (130.5 feet versus 132.6 feet) despite the Interceptor being tested in AWD. The Tahoe remains a very popular choice for all types of law enforcement applications and, even, routine patrol. Many Chevy loyal agencies desiring V-8 RWD units are opting for the Tahoe over the pricey Caprice because it is taller, roomier and has a proven resale value, whereas the import is too new to gauge its resale potential.

Dodge Charger and Ram Trucks

The folks from Auburn Hills are back again with their powerful HEMI Charger and a couple of sixes as well. The HEMI features MDS (Multi-Displacement System) Fuel Saver Technology and the 3.6 Pentastar™ V-6 has 50 state FlexFuel available. As noted before, the Charger HEMI (with 2.65 gearing) boasted the second highest top speed at 152 mph and the third best 0-100 times. The Charger V-6s both bested the Taurus-based Interceptors (without turbo) at 141 mph versus 131 mph and 132 mph. The 3.06 geared Charger V-6 was judged third in the braking exercise, with a projected stopping distance a scant tenth of a foot further than the Ford which won. Surely, the 2013 improvements, such as GEN 3 front hubs and reduced brake vibration, helped.

The Chargers have succeeded in filling a lion's share of the void created by the demise of the Crown Vic. With eight years experience on the mean streets, and yearly modifications, Dodge has shown they are in the fight for the long haul. Dodge now offers a whopping six upfitting packages for their Chargers, starting with the Base Prep

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Package (which includes wiring harnesses, siren speaker, trunk tray and fan, and more), the consumer can add one of three patrol packages or two slick top packages. These include a large variety of components, such as a console, various emergency lighting placement, push bars and much more.

While we are still in the Pentastar camp, we would be remiss to overlook their two Special Service Vehicles, the Ram truck and the Durango SUV. As you're aware, Ram is now a stand-alone branch of the Chrysler/Fiat tree and the 2012 model year introduced the two SSV vehicles. It should be noted NEITHER SSV was tested at MSP. This is because they are NOT rated as pursuit by Chrysler. Both vehicles feature a transferable five year/100,000 mile drivetrain warranty which can be a significant consideration for resale.

The Ram truck comes standard with the 5.7L HEMI V-8 with MDS Fuel Saver, whereas the Durango gives buyers two engine choices – either the 5.7L HEMI or the standard 3.6L Pentastar V-6. The Durango bolts a five-speed auto to the V-6 and a six-speed auto to the HEMI, and the truck has a six-speed auto only. Both vehicles have a wealth of safety and comfort standard features and options available. Additionally, the pickup is available with either a 5' 7" or a 6' 4" bed, and the Durango is available in either RWD (standard) or AWD.

Five different Interceptors were tested at MSP this year.

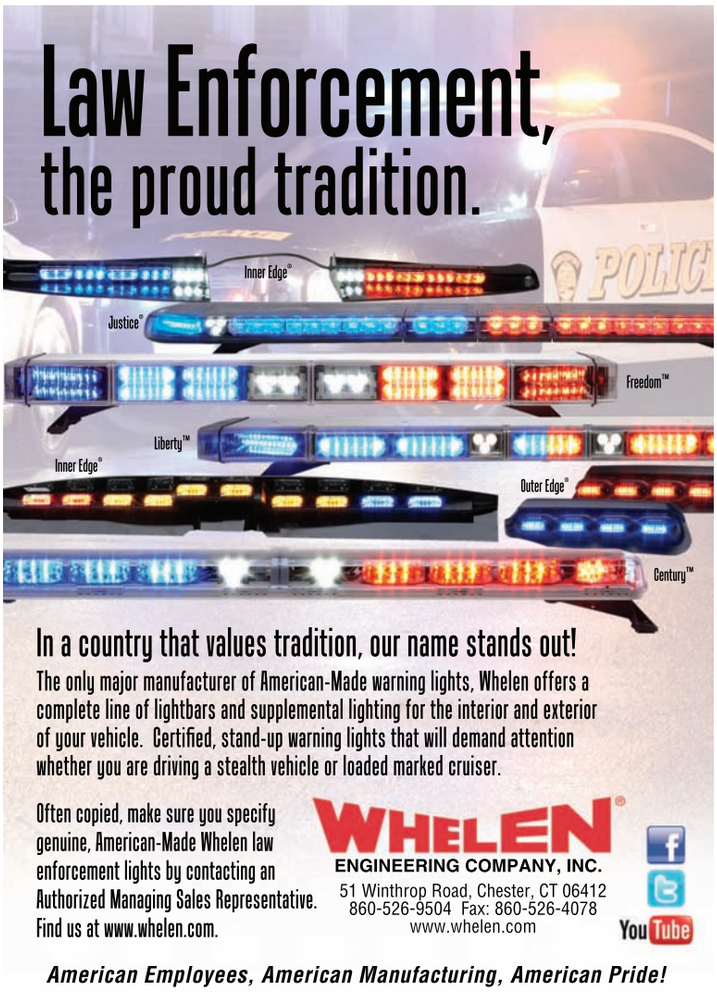
Ford

To somewhat appease fans of the recently whacked Crown Victoria Police Interceptor, Ford now offers a dizzying array of police cruisers, all wearing the "new" Interceptor badge. Some five different Interceptors were tested at MSP this year, two standard 3.5L V-6 sedans (one FWD and one AWD), one turbo EcoBoost sedan and one 3.7L sedan (both AWD) and the Utility in AWD with a 3.7L V-6. As we reported, the EcoBoost sedan in AWD had the fastest times at 0-60, 0-80 and 0-100 mph. The Utility PI had the best 0-60 and 0-80 times of the SUVs. The 3.7L AWD sedan had the shortest stopping distance of any vehicle tested.

In a recent episode of the popular cable show, "Top Gear," the three hosts went head-to-head racing three new police cars in a straight line and on a road course. Featured were the Chevy Caprice, the Dodge Charger and the Ford Sedan PI. The Chevy and Dodge both had V-8 hearts and the Interceptor was the turbo AWD version. Although nowhere as meticulous as the MSP tests, in the "Top Gear" races, the little Ford blew the others away.

The jury is out as to which of the two Interceptors will sell the best, or at all. They are both certainly the most contemporary (i.e., futuristic) appearing of the "Big Three" 's offerings, but they're playing to a pretty traditional audience, not to mention law enforcement's bias against FWD. Ford doesn't release sales figures, of course, and it's too early to rely on spotters since the Fords were the last of the new cars to hit the streets, but the MSP test results are encouraging.

To hedge their bets (as we reported last issue), Ford now also offers yet another law enforcement choice, the popular 150 pickup in a Special Service version. We won't go into all the details and features here since the ink is barely dry on our last issue, but suffice it to say, the truck is yet another option for Ford loyal departments who might have a use for this type of vehicle. The 150 SSVs were NOT tested at MSP, either, as they are not designated pursuit vehicles by Ford.



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The BMW is the fastest on two wheels at 128 mph (once again).

MOTORCYCLES

Four motorcycles were tested by the Michigan State Police this year: the BMW R 1200 RTP; two Harley-Davidsons, the Road King® FLHP and the Electra Glide® FLHTP; and the Victory Commander I. Unfortunately, there was no information available at press time from either BMW or Victory. If interested in either of these motors, we suggest you check their respective Web sites.

We are able to provide the results from Lansing, however. Once again, the BMW was the fastest of the pack with a top speed of 128 mph. Folks, that's moving on two wheels! The next was the Victory, 13 miles slower at 115 mph. The Harleys came in at 108 mph and 103 mph. The Beemer was also the fastest at 0-60 and 0-100 (4.38 seconds and 10.90 seconds). When comparing speeds of the venerable old workhorse Harleys and the pocket rocket BMW, I'm reminded of a great dialog between Sean Penn and the wonderful Robert Duvall in the terrific movie, *Colors*. I can't go into detail in this G-rated publication, but the conversation compares the tactics of a young bull and an old bull. I'll summarize by saying the old bull (in our case, Harley) may be slower than the young bull (BMW), but he gets the job done anyway – and better, too! This is a fact borne out over and over again in the 105 years of Harley-Davidson police motorcycles.

But, what about braking? Again, the BMW led the pack with the shortest calculated stopping distance from 60 mph to zero, at 143.9 feet. The H-Ds, with ABS standard, came in at a respectable 144.2 feet (FLHTP) and 150.7 feet (FLHP). But, you can't stop the Victory on a dime...it will take more like a pickup load of dimes, as the bike came in last with a projected stopping distance of 160.3 feet, a whopping 16.4 feet further than the BMW and nearly ten feet further than the second place Harley. That's the equivalent of more than a crosswalk. This is a pedestrian's worst nightmare!

Harley-Davidson offers three police motorcycles: the Road King FLHP, the Electra Glide FLHTP and the Sportster XL883L. The Sportster was not tested at MSP. Both of the large police motors tested are powered by the proven 103ci V-twin, whereas the Sportster has a 53.9ci (or 883L) engine; hence, the name. The larger bikes are basically carryover units from last year. Hey, if it ain't broke, don't fix it! Harley does want to point out, however, that they have vastly improved the seat on the big bikes after complaints about earlier models. The new seat is a deluxe one-piece coil over shock absorber seat, destined for miles and miles of comfortable pursuits and citation writing.

Harley has changed the seat on their big bikes for 2013.

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NEW!

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The police officers of Hoover, Alabama, know their vehicles are more than just cars and SUVs. They're a crucial part of the job. The Chevrolet Tahoe PPV, the Caprice PPV and the Impala Police Vehicle each provide the cutting-edge safety features, impressive cargo capacity and efficient ownership costs they — and you — can depend on. But the success of your fleet also requires the outstanding working relationships that come with dedicated service.

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Summary of Acceleration and Top Speed Testing

SPEED	Ford PI FWD 3.5L	Ford PI AWD 3.5L	Ford PI Utility AWD 3.7L	Ford PI Turbocharged AWD 3.8L	Ford PI AWD 3.7L (run 2)	Chevrolet Caprice 6.0L	Chevrolet Caprice 3.6L
0-20 mph	2.00	1.96	1.95	1.48	1.86	1.63	1.89
0-30 mph	3.05	3.03	2.98	2.23	2.86	2.49	3.05
0-40 mph	4.33	4.41	4.34	3.14	4.19	3.47	4.24
0-50 mph	5.79	5.87	5.85	4.21	5.66	4.69	5.92
0-60 mph	7.62	7.86	7.96	5.75	7.53	6.03	7.79
0-70 mph	9.95	10.19	10.17	7.38	9.71	7.78	9.76
0-80 mph	12.37	12.66	12.74	9.08	12.09	9.68	12.62
0-90 mph	15.20	15.73	16.02	11.32	14.99	11.77	15.80
0-100 mph	19.04	19.64	21.13	13.77	18.62	14.28	19.21
Top Speed (mph)	131	131	132	150	132	154	146

Summary of Acceleration and Top Speed Testing

SPEED	Chevrolet Impala 3.6L	Chevrolet Tahoe 3.5L	Dodge Charger 5.7L 3.06	Dodge Charger 5.7L 2.65	Dodge Charger 3.6L 3.07	Dodge Charger 3.6L 2.65
0-20 mph	1.91	1.96	1.69	1.72	1.84	1.91
0-30 mph	3.03	3.11	2.54	2.63	3.07	3.27
0-40 mph	4.12	4.47	3.50	3.54	4.30	4.57
0-50 mph	5.58	6.18	4.75	4.74	5.76	5.95
0-60 mph	7.22	8.04	6.08	6.12	7.70	7.82
0-70 mph	9.01	10.54	7.85	7.57	9.87	10.04
0-80 mph	11.76	13.47	9.95	9.45	12.42	12.47
0-90 mph	14.83	16.80	12.21	11.89	15.94	15.06
0-100 mph	18.29	21.07	14.61	14.39	20.05	19.50
Top Speed (mph)	149	137	149	152	141	141

Summary of Brake Testing

	Ford PI FWD 3.5L	Ford PI AWD 3.5L	Ford PI Utility AWD 3.7L	Ford PI Turbocharged AWD 3.8L	Ford PI AWD 3.7L (run 2)	Chevrolet Caprice 6.0L	Chevrolet Caprice 3.6L
Phase 1 Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	29.25	29.56	29.36	29.74	30.07	30.35	30.21
Phase 2 Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	29.30	29.61	29.06	29.76	30.32	29.65	30.05
Overall Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	29.27	29.58	29.21	29.75	30.20	30.00	30.13
Projected Stopping Distance from 60.0 mph (in feet)	132.3	130.9	132.6	130.2	128.2	129.1	128.5

Summary of Brake Testing

	Dodge Charger 3.07 3.6L	Dodge Charger 2.65 3.6L	Chevy Caprice 3.6L	Chevy Caprice 6.0L	Chevy Impala 3.6L	Chevy Tahoe PPV 5.3L
Phase 1 Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	30.17	30.11	29.35	30.02	28.71	29.90
Phase 2 Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	29.82	29.72	29.61	30.33	28.49	29.47
Overall Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	29.99	29.91	29.48	30.17	28.60	29.68
Projected Stopping Distance from 60.0 mph (in feet)	129.1	129.4	131.3	128.3	135.4	130.5

Summary of Motorcycle Acceleration and Top Speed Testing				
SPEED	**BMW R1200 RTP**	**Harley-Davidson Road King® FLHP**	**Harley-Davidson Electra Glide® FLHTP**	**Victory Commander I**
0-20 mph	1.47	1.62	1.49	1.42
0-30 mph	2.06	2.42	2.33	2.09
0-40 mph	2.68	3.39	3.31	3.12
0-50 mph	3.56	4.54	4.54	4.13
0-60 mph	4.38	6.04	6.13	5.66
0-70 mph	5.52	7.95	8.08	7.23
0-80 mph	6.84	10.67	10.99	9.71
0-90 mph	8.63	14.47	15.26	12.99
0-100 mph	10.90	22.51	29.20	18.04
Top Speed	128	108	103	115

Summary of Motorcycle Brake Testing				
	BMW R1200 RTP	**Harley-Davidson Road King® FLHP**	**Harley-Davidson Electra Glide® FLHTP**	**Victory Commander I**
Phase 1 Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	26.92	25.92	27.05	24.23
Phase 2 Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	26.89	25.48	26.64	24.08
Overall Average Deceleration Rate (feet per second)	26.90	25.70	26.85	24.16
Projected Stopping Distance from 60.0 mph (in feet)	143.9	150.7	144.2	160.3

LIGHTS AND SIRENS

Every bit as important as adequately dressing your officers for duty is dressing your vehicles for duty. This includes graphics, of course, but, more importantly, lights and sirens. It is imperative for both the safety of your officers and citizens, as well, that your squads can be seen and heard – and, the further, the better. If you use unmarked (slick top) vehicles for any enforcement activity where they encounter stops and/or pursuits, they MUST be similarly outfitted. Following is a review of what new eye and ear candy is available.

Carson Manufacturing Co., Inc. (www.carson-mfg.com)

Carson Sirens has introduced their new line of SC-411 Elite Force sirens, featuring the exclusive QuickClone™ duplication technology which allows units to be transferred between vehicles without the need for a computer program. Additionally, the units are full feature sirens which can be located in small places. The SC-411 RD-10 14 gives you a dual tone, full emergency warning system control with superior style and design. They are available in dual tone (two speakers) or single tone (one speaker). The dual tone allows you to duplicate the sound of two sirens simultaneously without the expense of two separate units. You only need to purchase a second speaker.

Code 3®, Inc. (www.code3pse.com)

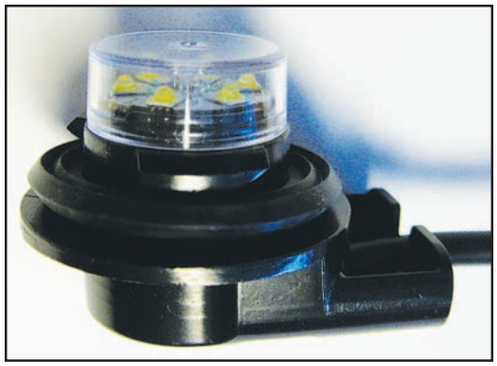
Code 3 Public Safety has introduced a number of new emergency lighting products for the coming

Circle 6055 for More Information

The SuperVisor® U™ Interior Lightbar from Code 3® prevents flashback light from distracting the driver.

year. Included is the 21IF lightbar which is engineered with the low profile body style of their 2100 lightbar and includes Torus™ LED Independent Flashing lighthead technology. The 21IF is a significant upgrade to the 2100 lightbar with improved lightheads (along with other upgrades) which provide a brighter signal for superior visibility.

The SuperVisor® U™ is a new version of Code 3's current front windshield interior light. The SuperVisor U is sleekly designed to fit the windshield curves and angles of most vehicles (thus the "Universal" name). The adjustable side shield light blocking plates have been designed specifically to block out flashback light from the sides.



The Twist Lock Hide-A-Blast is easily installed.

Code 3's new CommandStik features eight bright three up LED lightheads in single or split flashing colors of red, blue, amber, or white. This interior vehicle light is driven by a Central Controller Board which includes numerous standard flash patterns. The CommandStik is 1 1/4" x 3 1/4"

These Code 3® Side Marker Lights are designed to fit in Ford's existing side marker light units.

front to back x 27 1/2" in length which allow this light to be mounted on the inside of sedans and SUVs.

The new Twist Lock Hide-A-Blast for the Ford Police Interceptor Sedan and Utility is a custom designed six LED flasher which works with the Ford Factory prep option (headlight assembly) 86P. Installing the Twist Lock Hide-A-Blast is very easy – just pop it in a one inch mounting hole.

Finally, Code 3's new Ford Sedan (NGPI) Side Marker Lights are designed to fit in Ford's existing side marker light units. They utilize XT4 LEDs and are available in single or split flashing colors and can be ordered with different color combinations.

Circle 6056 for More Information

Circle 6057 for More Information

New SignalMaster™ directional lighting from Federal Signal

Federal Signal Corp.
(www.fedsig.com)

Federal Signal has introduced their new CN SignalMaster™ for advanced warning and directional lighting for police vehicles. It features Solaris LED reflector design for superior light output to the front and rear of the vehicle and can quickly be changed from a warning light to a directional light with Federal Signal's advanced SpectraLux™ multicolor LED technology.

Federal's new Valor™ lightbars are in a class by themselves. Easily the most different appearing low profile LED lightbar on the market, it offers a full 360 degree coverage with outstanding illumination and a variety of special features.

Rontan Signals®
(www.rontan.com)

The MagFoot LED® mount, designed for use with a number of Rontan Signal's own lightbars, features Generation 5, three watt Philips Lumileds Rebel LEDs and full 45° horizontal adjustability. The lightbar can be configured entirely with full color LED modules with bright white takedown and alley light performance handled by the

MagFoot LED mount. If is fully programmable to work in tandem with your takedown and alley lights or independently.

SoundOff Signal
(www.soundoffsignal.com)

SoundOff Signal has introduced the first full line tricolor family of perimeter lighting products in the market, nFORCE. They are designed to integrate aesthetically and functionally with the 2013 law enforcement vehicle designs, including the Caprice PPV, Charger Pursuit and the two Ford Interceptors. Powered by SoundOff's Nexus LED technology, the right solutions are available for surface mount, deck and grille, windshield and recessed mount applications. They are available in a wide array of colors and patterns, including an intense 18 tricolor combination.

The CANTROL™ WC from Whelen can incorporate every light and siren on your cruiser into custom program configurations.

Whelen Engineering Company, Inc.
(www.whelen.com)

Whelen Engineering was one of the earliest entrants into the LED field and they continue to develop exciting new products. Their CANTROL™ WC is a light and siren control system for total vehicle integration where you can configure (with a Windows®-based program) the proper response to any situation before it happens. A USB port allows program transfer from your computer to the full function amplifier/control module which then controls all lighting, traffic arrows and siren

Circle 6058 for More Information

Circle 6059 for More Information

functions in your vehicle. It includes inputs for five different style control heads (ordered separately); three analog inputs; an integrated battery voltage monitor; supports one or two 100 watt speakers; is programmable for "hands-free" operation; and includes over 45 programmable siren tones and a PA and Radio repeat function.

Whelen is justifiably proud of their new Pioneer™ SlimLine™ Super-LED Worklights. These versatile lights mount many different places on your vehicle's exterior, wherever additional night lighting may be needed. They feature rugged die cast, white or black powder coated housings and are rated to last thousands of hours with low amp draw. The single lamp version provides 3000 usable lumens at 35 watts; the dual lamp provides 6000 lumens at 70 watts.

CONSOLES, MOUNTS AND STORAGE SOLUTIONS

In most instances, lights and sirens are universal (generic) units which may be rotated in the fleet, or from older cruisers to their new replacements, but consoles, mounts and storage elements tend to be make and model specific, stand-alone products. Before new squads are introduced to buyers, there is a mad frenzy by builders of these items to design products which fit. This means that, often, manufacturers are working with prototype vehicles for their critical measurements. Of course, if the car builders alter their production vehicles, some of the aftermarket equipment might not fit. Following are products engineered to fit your vehicles and your needs.

Circle 6061 for More Information

Circle 6062 for More Information

Among the many new mounting solutions from Gamber-Johnson is this new console box for the Chevy Tahoe.

Gamber-Johnson, LLC
(www.gamberjohnson.com)

Gamber-Johnson builds docking stations and mounting solutions. They have introduced a console box designed specifically for the Ford Sedan Interceptor which is a low profile, no drill unit which allows a computer to be center mounted or with a passenger side offset. There are two versions of the Ford NGPI Console Box. One comes with an armrest and dual cup holders and the other version is the console box only. Gamber-Johnson has also created a vehicle specific console for the Ford Utility Interceptor which, like the sedan model, does not require a leg kit or a floor plate. It is also available in the two different styles like the sedan model.

Another vehicle specific console introduced by Gamber-Johnson is designed for the Chevrolet Tahoe. It also mounts without legs or floor plates and features a removable top and side plates to ease radio installations and wiring. It also is available with or without cup holders and armrests.

Gamber-Johnson continues to roll out new products – the CF19 docking station being an example. This is a new docking station for the Panasonic Toughbook 53 which enjoys huge popularity in law enforcement circles. It has been designed to maximize the space available inside a patrol vehicle by using a small docking footprint.

Go Rhino! Products, Inc.
(www.gorhino.com)

Go Rhino! has developed new prisoner partitions for the Ford Utility Interceptor which feature

several options, so you can literally build your own partition to meet your own needs. Your choices include a 50/50 stationary window model which features a vinyl coated, 11 gauge expanded metal passenger section with a 1/4" clear driver section; the W sliding window which features a three piece 1/4" clear polycarbonate window with a locking horizontal sliding section; panel kits to keep prisoners contained in the rear passenger compartment; and panels to convert standard partitions to recessed for increased weapon and equipment storage, among others.

Havis' Docking Station for Panasonic's Toughbook® H2

Havis, Inc.
(www.havis.com)

Havis has introduced a new docking station for the Panasonic Toughbook® H2 PC which is Toughbook Certified by Panasonic. By utilizing a thin design and top facing ports, the station maintains a low profile when mounted to other equipment, such as a console or to a fixed partition.

Havis has also announced the availability of its new Panasonic Toughbook 31 docking station. Havis' DS-PAN-111 series is Panasonic Toughbook certified and offers the utmost connectivity with five USB 2.0 ports and two Ethernet ports. Its aircraft-grade aluminum unibody with reinforced nylon (impact-resistant) side rails provides both reduced weight and improved strength. This new docking station is compatible with each new Panasonic Toughbook 31, as well as with the Panasonic Toughbook 30.

Highway Products, Inc.
(www.highwayproducts.com)

Highway Products unveiled their new Pickup Pack for law enforcement vehicles. It is a custom storage system for pickups which combines quick and easy access to stored gear, maximum storage for equipment for all kinds of emergency situations, plus the peace of mind of lockup security. It is weather-resistant as well.

Pro-gard Products LLC
(www.pro-gard.com)

Pro-gard has launched a new Weapons Storage Drawer for the Ford Utility Interceptor since it lacks the secure trunk area of the sedans. It is constructed of MDO plywood with a tough ABS overlay which is moistureproof and cleans easily; a customizable foam liner secures loose weapons; and it has a programmable combination code lock. The large size (44 1/2" x 18 1/2" x 11") allows discrete, secure storage for weapons and recovered contraband or evidence.

Pugs Cabinet Systems
(www.pugscabinets.com)

The CPTT-12 equipment storage system maximizes cargo area while protecting electrical equipment and comes standard with open vented cooling wings and two compression latches on a hinged door. Both fleet and retail versions of the CPTT-12 are available and can be tailored with optional fans or locking latches. Once installed, you have easy access to service equipment, 13.5 cubic feet of storage room, and access to the spare tire.

The new CPTT-12 from Pugs maximizes cargo area.

Circle 6064 for More Information

Circle 6063 for More Information

The new design Tough-Box™ consoles from RAM are 30% lighter than comparable units.

RAM Mounting Systems, Inc.
(www.ram-mount.com)

RAM Mounts' new design Tough-Box™ Consoles are up to 30% lighter than the competition's consoles and are as functional and durable without the weight. Another key feature is that the use of molded parts eliminates sharp corners and edges. The mounts offer shock and vibration protection and are compatible with RAM tablet and laptop mounts. The new RAM consoles are sure to set a new industry standard and are available for all the popular cruisers.

The new Combination Trunk Tray and Weapons Mount from Setina has a 300 pound capacity

Setina Manufacturing Company, Inc.
(www.setina.com)

A couple of items from Setina Manufacturing are new this year. The new "XL" series of partitions has joined their line of (patented) Side Curtain Airbag Compatible Partitions. The enlarged passenger side back panel recess provides extra legroom which allows officers easier prisoner loading and unloading by preventing foot entanglement (especially of tall individuals).

The suspended mounting system of this new partition anchors to the vehicle's B-pillars which eliminate partition floor mounting brackets which normally create foot obstructions in a vehicle's foot well area.

Also new is the Combination Trunk Tray and Weapons Mount which provides a solution for trunk placement of auxiliary equipment and easy access weapons mounting.

The heavy-duty, lightweight aluminum tray's low profile design adjusts up under the vehicle's trunk deck for maximum trunk room and slides open for quick access to gear and guns. It provides a 300 pound capacity and adjusts to three height positions.

Sirchie®
(www.sirchie.com)

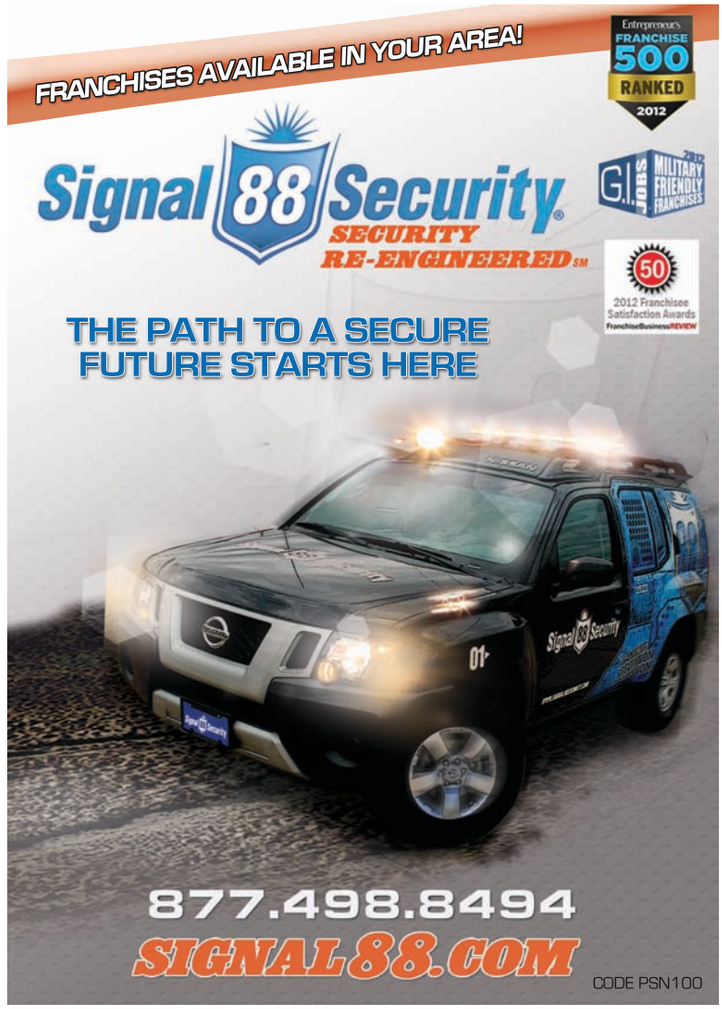
Sirchie has designed a storage solution for the Chevy Tahoe and Suburban, and the Ford Expedition SUVs – the SODC100 SUV Slide-Out Drawer Cabinet. It is made of forged aluminum which is a weight saving advantage over the competitor's heavier units and provides a dry container for evidence, equipment or weapons.

Sirchie has expanded their evidence collection vehicles line with the addition of the ECV100TC Evidence Collection Transit Connect Van, built off the Ford Transit Connect XLT Van platform. The ECV100TC gives departments an option for a cost-effective vehicle which is designed with Sirchie's vast knowledge of crime scene investigation equipment.

Troy Products
(www.troyproducts.com)

Troy Products offers a variety of weapon/equipment storage solutions for use by specialized law

Circle 6065 for More Information



Circle 6066 for More Information

Study Reveals Police Use Deadly Force Less Often than Legally Justified

That police kill fewer than 400 people per year reflects considerable restraint on the part of officers who would have been legally justified in shooting a subject, but found other ways to resolve the incident. In a survey of almost 300 police officers who had served an average of 17 years, 80 percent reported being assaulted at least once in their careers, with just over a quarter hurt badly enough to need time off from work. Nearly all the officers had drawn their service weapons at least once per year under threatening conditions, and seven in ten said they'd experienced at least one confrontation in which they were legally justified to shoot to kill. The officers had been through an average of four such confrontations each. However, only 20 percent had fired, meaning just seven percent of the incidents saw lethal force used.

Future research will study how officers arrived at their decisions to use – or not use – deadly force. For more information about the recent survey, see **http:// tinyurl.com/8dteedq**.

enforcement units such as SWAT, bomb and arson, hazmat, etc. They have a unique three drawer system for the Tahoe, the SWAT Box, custom designed for a SWAT team to accommodate their specific weapons, ammunition, gear, and vests.

TruckVault, Inc.
(www.truckvault.com)

The TruckVault Technology Platform is designed to provide power and lighting wherever you need it. The platform consists of either a standalone 12V power system or a full 120V/12V combination with an inverter. Both systems can deliver 600 or 1000 watts, depending on your needs. The TruckVault Technology Platform can be installed in all makes and models of law enforcement vehicles.

EVERYTHING ELSE

This final section contains an assortment of other equipment you may desire to complete your dream squad car. This includes video cameras and systems and other electronic wizardry.

AEDEC's Prostraint® Seat has been in use for over 24 years.

AEDEC International, Inc.
(aedec@comcast.com)

The Prostraint® Vehicle Prisoner Rear Seat, from AEDEC, has provided the safe and secure transportation of prisoners for over 24 years. Seats are available for the new vehicle model years and include SUVs such as the Chevy Tahoe, Ford Interceptor Utility and Expedition, and the new Dodge Durango. The SUV seats come as bucket-style seats and are sold in paired units. They are also available for Special Service Vehicles such as the Ford F-150 Super Crew and Chevrolet Silverado.

Circle **6067** for More Information

COBAN's new HD in-car system provides the user of the choice between high or standard definition.

COBAN Technologies, Inc.
(www.cobantech.com)

COBAN Technologies has introduced their EDGE High Definition (HD) In-Car Video System which is their fourth generation system. It features newly developed technologies and upgraded features, such as a user-friendly 5.7" touch screen. The EDGE HD contains a cutting edge technology called Smart High Definition™ which gives the user the choice between high or standard definition.

To insure all video and audio evidence is secure, EDGE HD contains dual solid-state storage with a Fail-Safe Black-Box™, designed to withstand mobile and harsh environments.

COPsync
(www.copsync.com)

VidTac is a new in-car video system from COPsync which offers high-definition 1080p video which provides much greater image quality than most currently available.

It is a software driven system which works with existing in-car computers and eliminates the need for a separate DVR. This unique software approach turns the existing in-car computer into a DVR without interrupting other programs, eliminating the need for DVR hardware to handle the video recording, processing, and storage.

The VidTac twin lens camera is ultracompact at just 15 cubic inches (3" x 2.5" x 2") with a 10x electronic zoom. According to the manufacturer, it can deliver a clear license plate image at 50 feet with 1080p video and at 75 feet with the five megapixel still camera. While it does deliver 1080p HD video, VidTac can also be set to lower resolutions such as 720p and 480p. VidTac can also simultaneously capture both full motion HD video and high-resolution five megapixel still images.

The VidTac Officer DashBoard provides an interface which brings the ease of use of a mobile app to the patrol car. It offers large buttons for touch screen or mouse usage; a map view of the officer's location; and full remote fleet management with the ability to push software and setting updates to vehicles in the field.

Datalux Mobile Computers
(www.datalux.com)

Datalux Mobile Computers has introduced their fifth generation of the TRACER computer, the Tracer T-5, which features a second generation i5 Intel processor. The space saving design of this unit features the industries' only steering wheel mounted keyboard! Imagine the convenience for your officers, plus the enhanced safety of the location which is closer to their POV through the windshield.

Digital Ally, Inc.
(www.digitalally.com)

Digital Ally's newest in-car video system is the DVB-777 "Triple 7" which can be controlled by a laptop/MDC, a 3.5" monitor controller, or a seven inch monitor with separate remote controls. Recordings may be started manually or automatically through triggers such as the G-Force sensor, the vehicle's lightbar, etc. Video is recorded at D1 high resolution quality and the system features integrated GPS with marking and back office mapping capabilities, wireless mic with internal memory and remote recording activation control, wireless transfer and streaming options, and more. Up to four cameras and four separate audio channels can be recorded simultaneously with this system.

Farber Specialty Vehicles
(www.farberspecialty.com)

To replace their decade old fleet of mobile offices, Farber Specialty Vehicles designed and

Circle 6068 for More Information

built five mobile command centers for Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF). These units featured cutting edge innovations and workable solutions to a multitude of complex and sophisticated technologies, including state-of-the-art interiors and communications, and customized camera equipment, built over a standardized drive package to meet their requirements of heavy road usage.

Fortress Mobile
(www.fortressmobile.com)

Fortress Mobile has recently introduced their FortressView line of law enforcement video solutions which incorporate a wireless controller which can be used securely inside or outside of the vehicle to control all functions of the video system. This is achieved through the use of the Fortress TABViewer, an Android™-based app which runs on a tablet or phone. The FortressView Zoom Camera features large backlit buttons for ease of use and the system also utilizes a backseat camera with a high resolution lens, including IR for night vision and an integrated microphone for backseat recording.

LDV, Inc.
(www.ldvusa.com)

New Kent County, Virginia, took delivery of their new LDV Rapid Response vehicle at the end of September and, by mid-October, the unit has already been used three times with "awesome results." Starting at under $60,000, these SWAT team vehicles are becoming a heavily utilized

Oakland's new HNT unit will also be used as an on-site command center.

addition to a department's fleet.

On the tactical operations front, the Oakland, California, Police Department took delivery of a new 26 foot HNT unit in late October. The truck's primary purpose will be hostage negotiation and it can also be used as an on-site command center. The rear room can be closed to provide a quiet work environment for a team of four negotiators and the forward area has a slide out room extension with a conference table which can seat up to five people for briefings or command situations. One of the great advantages of this truck is that, due to its size, it is much more maneuverable and it will be able to get into areas which may not accommodate a larger vehicle.

Lenco Armored Vehicles
(www.swattrucks.com)

The Lenco Bearcat Communications Variant is an armored, all-terrain mobile command center

This Bearcat variant is an armored all-terrain command center.

with night capabilities. The communications station allows a commander the capability to command, control and communicate with his personnel under full armor protection. The (optional) protected and stabilized gyrocam thermal camera, which can be raised to 20 feet, provides field awareness, too.

MNSTAR Technologies, Inc.
(www.mnstar.com)

MNSTAR's newest law enforcement equipment wiring harness, the Adaptable Design, allows you to determine what options are right for you. MNSTAR states there are over 100,000 possible combinations for every make and model police vehicle out there. The Installer and Integrator Series 2.0 is a complete redesign of the original Flexible Installer and provides a solution for every fleet.

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Circle 6070 for More Information

Patrol Witness™
(www.patrolwitness.com)

Patrol Witness provides integrated digital in-car video systems. Their big seller is the PWLite which features fanless operation; low power consumption; extended operating temperature ranges; built-in flash storage; and a high level of security encryption from recording to storage and retrieval.

Its Communications/Display Controller (with its built-in 4.5" LCD monitor) replaces the standard rearview mirror and serves as the control unit for the system. The PWLite provides redundant video storage and can also be upgraded to the PW III for a complete wireless download option.

The biggest selling point for this system continues to be its price – a complete system for under $3000.

WatchGuard's 4RE in-car video system simultaneously records all events in both 720p high-definition and a lower resolution.

WatchGuard Video
(www.watchguardvideo.com)

High-definition is the new must have feature for in-car video and the WatchGuard 4RE™ takes the prize for having the first high-definition police in-car video system. Their multiple resolution recording process enables the 4RE to provide a much higher image resolution, while using less overall data storage than conventional systems.

Most police agencies record at the lowest resolution in order to minimize file sizes and data storage costs, so WatchGuard developed a recording system which handles routine events (which do not go to court) differently than the critical events (about 10% of recordings) which stem from arrestable incidents. The 4RE system simultaneously records all events in both 720p high-definition and a lower resolution and then, after the recording is stopped, a decision is automatically made about which resolution to keep – based on the event type classification. Each agency sets up its own list of event classifications and configures which event types they want to keep in high-definition.

WatchGuard also claims that the files from the 4RE's routine recordings are much smaller than the files from competing products as a result of their method of file compression. I did have a chance to view footage of nighttime recordings from this system at a recent trade show; the quality was very impressive.

We've saved perhaps the best news for the last.

The Streamlight SolarStream™ is a supplemental solar charging panel for emergency vehicles.

Streamlight, Inc.
(www.streamlight.com)

Streamlight, Inc. has long been known for their high performance lighting, both in industry, military and law enforcement, but their new Streamlight SolarStream™ system takes the cake. If you've ever been stranded in a police car due to total electrical failure (and I have), it can really ruin your day. Mine happened before the days of cell phones and in an area where my walkie-talkie had no reception. I resorted to flagging down a friendly citizen who gave me a lift to the nearest pay phone. (Wow, there are two obsolete terms in one sentence – friendly citizen and pay phone.)

Streamlight has come up with the solution to all your electrical woes in the form of their unique roof mounted solar panel battery charger which helps offset the vehicle's battery drain when the engine is off. A thin film amorphous silicone charging panel adheres to a variety of contoured surfaces. The panel measures 40.88" x 13.07", weighs 1.3 pounds and is wind-resistant up to 120 mph. It even works in low sun and cloudy conditions and is both heat and shade tolerant.

The units carry a five year limited warranty and have a MSRP of $400.00 each which nearly equals the cost of four heavy-duty police car batteries. There is no word if the panel can be changed to another vehicle or if it damages paint after a several year installation, but it certainly has the potential of being both a life- and budget-saver.

That's it for another year. We sincerely hope we've been informative and, hopefully, saved you a few bucks along the way.

About the Author: James G. Post always appreciates your comments and encourages your ideas about future topics. He can be reached at 5922 S. Primrose Rd., Lowell, AR, 72745-9379 or via E-mail at kopkars@arkansas.net.

Circle 6071 for More Information

Proper Sniper Rifle Maintenance

What prompted me to write this article was an experience I had while conducting a police sniper school in the Midwest.

The students had all been indoctrinated in a rather unusual method of cleaning their rifles. It was unusual in that it was totally ineffective (more on this later). To make a bad situation worse, one of my students had recently attended a state sponsored "seminar" which took police snipers out to the 1000 yard line and had them shoot. In my usual sensitive manner, I pointed out that his time would have been better spent learning the proper way to clean his rifle instead of doing "gee whiz" training at two thirds of a mile.

As a sniper, your primary goal is to maximize your potential with your particular weapon and ammo combination in order to be of some tactical use.

One of the ways to attain this goal is, of course, to maintain your equipment in the best possible condition. Cleaning the fouling out of your bore benefits you by maintaining the shot to shot precision of your weapon. It's also a benefit to your agency because fouling can build up to the point where rifles have to be rebarreled or replaced. Proper cleaning of the bore will delay this expensive procedure.

Over the past several years, many innovative techniques have been developed for this task, initially by the bench rest rifle community. Bench rest shooters are happiest when they place all the shots into a group consisting of one hole. As snipers, we'll accept a slightly larger group in return for not having to carry a 40 pound rifle up six flights of stairs (not to mention taking 30 minutes to fire a ten round group)!

Perhaps the biggest change realized in weapons cleaning from this community was the move away from purely mechanical cleaning towards the method of "chemical" cleaning.

Mechanical vs. Chemical

Mechanical cleaning is characterized by the act of scrubbing or scouring the bore with a bore brush soaked in some kind of powder solvent or PTFE (PolyTetraFluoroEthylene)-based cleaner/lubricant (such as Break-Free®).

Although the above procedure works for powder or carbon fouling, PTFE cleaners were never intended to remove the type of fouling which has the most significant effect on rifle accuracy and barrel life. This, of course, is copper fouling.

When a jacketed bullet travels down a rifle bore, minute traces of the copper jacket are left on the surface of the bore, immediately followed by a layer of powder fouling. As additional rounds are fired, this process is repeated while compressing previous layers deeper into the grain of the metal. The technical term for these alternating layers of carbon and copper has been dubbed "the Dagwood sandwich effect." If this copper fouling is allowed to remain and accumulate, at some point, accuracy will be seriously degraded. The only way to determine this point with any confidence is to maintain detailed firing records with a shot by shot record of your groups.

In addition to interfering with your rifle's zero, or accuracy, this layered fouling not only accelerates bore wear, but also serves as a magnet for moisture. For this reason alone, the investment of a little effort and expense will pay dividends in maintaining your long rifle.

The main principle behind chemical cleaning is the use of a solvent which causes a chemical reaction with the copper fouling, changing it into a form which can be more easily removed.

The Materials

Before listing the steps in cleaning, it is necessary to go over the required components:

Bore Cleaner – This is a solvent such as Shooter's Choice #7 Firearms Bore Cleaner which has an effect on copper fouling, but we will use it here for carbon fouling. There is also another product with the unfortunate name of Shooter's Choice Black Powder Cleaning Gel. For severe fouling, this gel will stick to the bore and really soak into the fouling. Make sure, however, to always swab it out with patches soaked in bore cleaner.

Copper Solvent – Recently, I was introduced to an improved copper solvent which was more stable and didn't require air to work. For that reason, I now use Shooter's Choice Copper Solvent. Unless the barrel is still hot, most copper solvents don't do too good of a job on carbon, but will literally dissolve plated on copper. Don't leave copper cleaner in the bore for extended periods of time

Properly applying bore cleaner to the patch

since it attracts moisture.

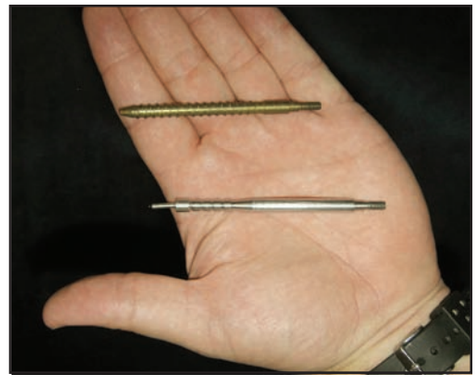
Lighter Fluid – A bottle of cigarette lighter fluid should be maintained for dipping your bore brush into after cleaning. Lighter fluid serves to deactivate the bore cleaner and prevent it from "eating" the copper out of your bore brush.

Cleaning Rod – Many people don't realize it, but there are many differences of opinion in the shooting business and many of these differences are on selection of cleaning rods: coated or uncoated; one-piece or sectional; rotating or nonrotating. Several considerations, however, should be kept in mind:

1. For law enforcement purposes, sectional rods aren't necessary since you won't normally need to carry a disassembled cleaning rod on the belt of your tactical gear. The reason why I prefer one-piece rods is because the sectional rod carries a risk of abrading the bore from loose or ill fitting joints. The joints in a sectional rod also increase the chance of flexing the rod and rubbing against the bore.

2. Rods should be made of steel for stiffness. Although the trend for many years was to use a brass or aluminum rod to lessen the risk of bore damage, these rods always flexed when using a tight fitting patch. A steel rod isn't the enemy; a cleaning rod which flexes is our real worry.

3. Rods should be a few thousandths of an inch smaller than the bore. This will also contribute to rod stiffness.



Examples of spear point (bottom) and wraparound (top) jags

4. The best length is one which allows you to push a patch through the muzzle before you have to start bending the rod handle to clear some portion of the rifle's anatomy.

5. If your rod doesn't come with a carrying tube, you can make one from PVC pipe and a couple of end caps. This keeps the rod clean and helps prevent damage.

6. With the solvents necessary to really clean the rifle, the author has yet to see a plastic coated rod not lose its coat, given time – ever. Shooter's Choice is also used to remove plastic fouling from shotguns and will work on a plastic coating. Once again, if you use a stainless steel cleaning rod, just get into the habit of wiping the rod off every time you run it down the bore.

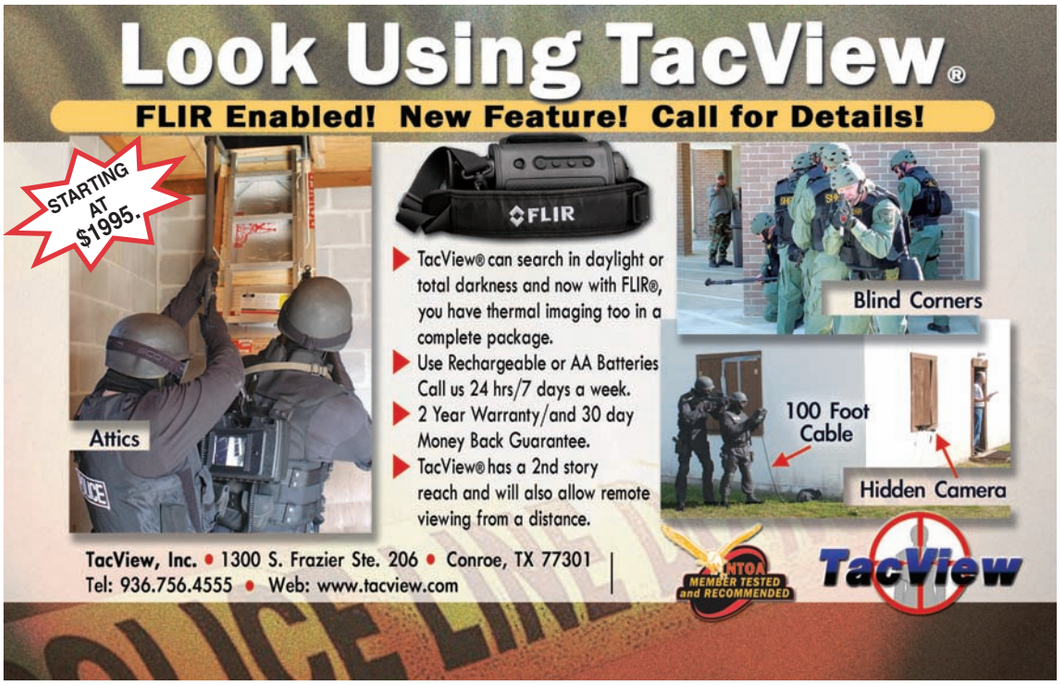
7. Just to eliminate confusion, the military issue, takedown cleaning rod from your department's AR-15 is not acceptable.

Patch Holder – Don't use the slotted "eye" type of patch holder. This type will not give you the maximum contact between the patch and the bore. You will also run the risk of the patch holder becoming misaligned to one side by the unevenness of the patch. Only use a jag tip of either the spear point or the Parker Hale wraparound type. A jag is purchased with one bore diameter in mind. This allows the jag to press the full surface of the patch into the rifling.

Bore Brushes – Use a brass cored bronze bore brush. Don't use a pure copper brush since the chemicals you'll use will cause the bore to become copper plated on the inside. Use the proper-sized bore brush so that the tips of the bristles aren't bent as they clean the rifling. (You've probably noticed by now that "one size does NOT fit all.") Order an adequate enough supply so that you won't be too reluctant to dispose of a worn-out brush. Don't be afraid to wash your brush after cleaning with a grease cutting dish detergent. This way, by saving dirty brushes, you'll be better able to afford disposing of a brush with crushed bristles.

Patches – Use cotton patches for their texture and absorbency. Always use the proper-sized patches. If you are cleaning a .308 Winchester® with a spear point jag, your patches need to be one square inch. If using a wraparound jag, patches should be about four square inches. Patches will have to be ordered in bulk for our purposes.

Circle 6073 for More Information



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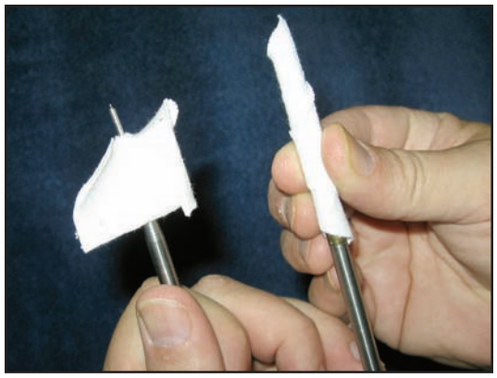


Proper placement of cleaning patches using both spear point and wraparound jags

Chamber Guide – Bolt-action rifles are always cleaned from the chamber end, not the muzzle. This has nothing to do with the direction of bullet travel, as some believe, but any rubbing of the cleaning rod on the muzzle crown will have a direct result on your group size. There is another area which needs to be protected, however, and that is the chamber throat. The chamber throat is where the bullet first contacts the rifling. A damaged muzzle crown can be fixed by a gunsmith on an "outpatient basis" by cutting and recrowning the damaged part. A damaged or worn chamber, however, involves removing the barrel and possible replacement, or cutting, rechambering and head spacing the old barrel. For these reasons, a chamber guide is necessary. A chamber guide resembles the rifle bolt which is removed for cleaning. Several types are available, but metal seems to work better than the plastic type. I used a plastic guide for a long time and the solvents which I use began to dissolve it. When selecting a chamber guide, you not only have to order one based on caliber, but often on the rifle model as well. A properly fitting chamber guide will also prevent cleaning solvent from working its way into the glass bedding (if it is glass bedded) of the action.

Lubricant – For years, I've been leaning toward dry lubricant systems. I was initially introduced to them in the winter environment while stationed at Fort Devens, MA, with the 10th Special Forces Group. I've since experienced their ability to protect and lubricate metal surfaces without attracting dirt or sand. The one system on which I've come to rely is produced by Sentry Solutions.

At this point, you've probably noticed that I'm pretty specific in specifying materials to be used. That's because I've tried a lot of stuff in the past and this is what works. However, I never want you to use something based on the criteria of "John says so!" so I have two objective tests for the cleaners you put up the bore.

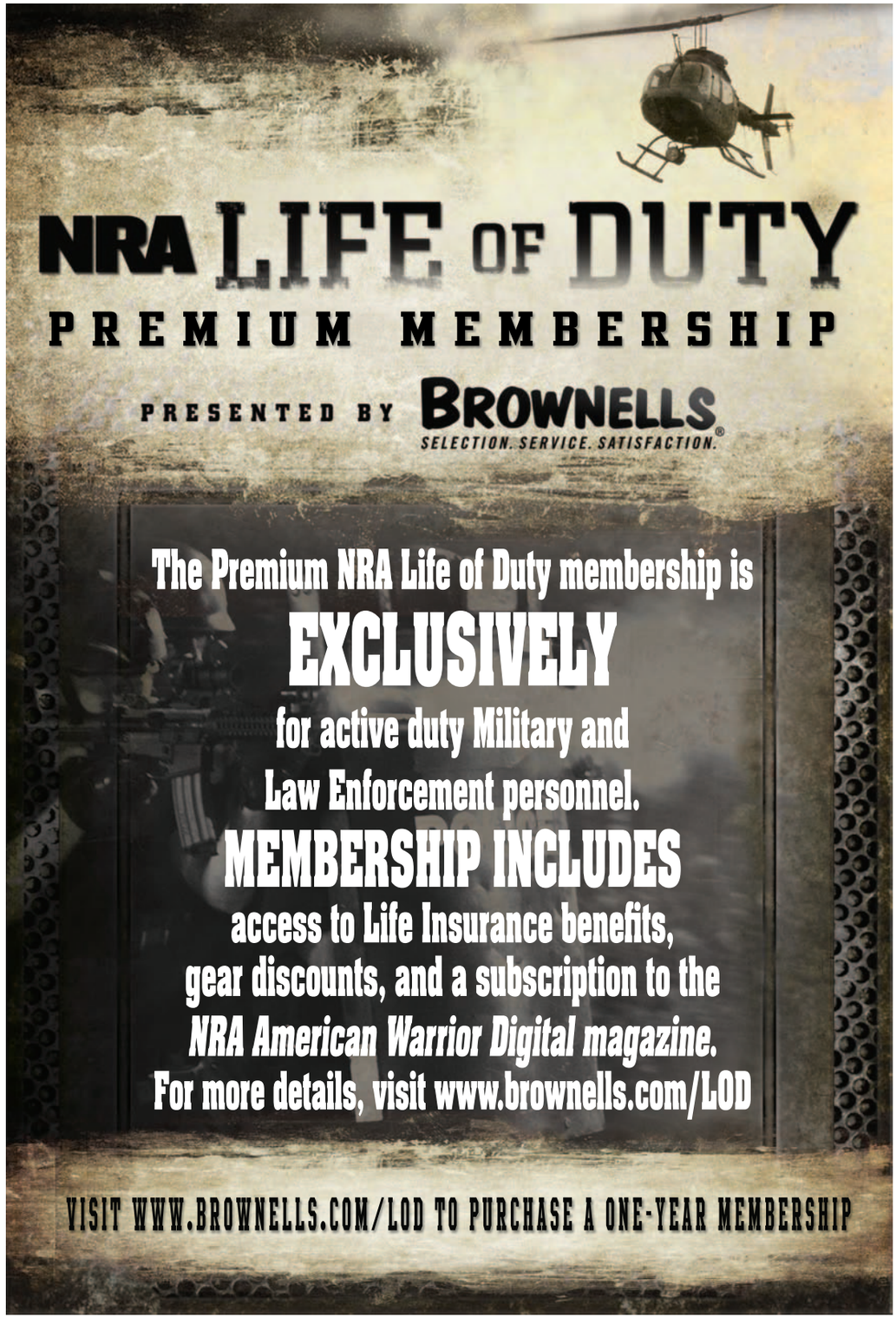
The Burn Test

Cut strips from an aluminum soda can and wash and dry them. Apply your bore cleaner or bore preservative to a strip. While holding it with tongs, light the cleaner on fire. This shows you what happens to your bore cleaner when you fire your first round. For example, have one strip coated with Shooter's Choice Bore Cleaner and another coated with Break-Free. Light the Shooter's Choice and you'll see very little residue after the fire goes out. Be careful when you light the Break-Free because it's going to flare up and leave a thick, brown residue which sticks to the aluminum strip. Which one do you want in your bore? To add insult to injury, now try and clean that residue off the aluminum strip and see what it takes. **Be careful of this test because the aluminum can catch fire and burn as well.**

The Copper Test

Take three American pennies and lay them on a ceramic or metal plate. Place a drop of Shooter's Choice Bore Cleaner on one of the pennies, a drop of Shooter's Choice Copper Solvent on the second and a drop of your current bore cleaner on the third.

A chamber guide (top) compared to the bolt of a common sniper rifle



Look in on them at about five minute intervals. As the standard to beat, you'll see the Shooter's Choice cleaner's changing color. The Copper Solvent will turn a bright blue as it dissolves the copper from the penny. If your bore cleaner isn't attacking copper fouling, why use it?

Points to Remember

First, ALWAYS make the rifle safe prior to cleaning. Pointing the muzzle in a safe direction, open or remove the magazine and remove any ammunition. Pull the bolt to the rear, visually and physically check the chamber and remove the bolt.

Second, try to clean the bore as soon as possible after shooting. Carbon fouling is very soft when it's fresh. This can be demonstrated during your next trip to the range. Simply pick up a just fired piece of brass and see how easily the neck fouling can be wiped off. Compare this with a piece of brass which has been allowed to cool off and you'll see the need for immediate cleaning at the range.

Third, do not use excessive force when cleaning the bore. Using a hammer or shoe to drive an oversized cleaning patch through the bore or similar procedures will eventually degrade the performance of your weapon.

Fourth, be "solvent conscious." In other words, remember that most cleaning solvents, when left un-checked, will destroy fiberglass bedding and some plastic stocks. If possible, clean the rifle upside down and, as a minimum, wipe up spilled solvent.

Fifth, DO NOT CONTAMINATE YOUR SOLVENT. This means you do not take a filthy bore brush and dip it into your solvent bottle. The obvious purpose of cleaning is to remove fouling. Contaminated solvent runs dissolved fouling right back into your bore. It only makes sense then to use clean chemicals, constantly wipe your cleaning rod, and use lighter fluid to protect your bore brushes.

Sixth, don't be the outfit which buys a gallon of solvent and then has everyone standing around it dipping brushes and patches into it like it was a fondue pot. The nice thing about Shooter's Choice Bore Cleaner is its availability in solventproof plastic squeeze bottles. In this way, after an initial purchase of squeeze bottles, they can be refilled from a larger container purchased in bulk.

Seventh, your bore cleaner or gel shouldn't have to soak more than an hour. Copper solvent shouldn't soak for more than 10-15 minutes. DO NOT SOAK OVERNIGHT with copper remover. Remember, for heavily fouling accumulations, I recommend using the gel to soak for an hour.

Eighth, I don't know where the practice of reusing dirty cleaning patches started, but don't do it.

Ninth, there is a practice I encountered in Illinois called "doing a George," named after the student who I first caught doing it. Having been introduced to copper solvent by me, I saw that he was pulling a lot of blue patches out of his bore. It seems that he was soaking his copper bore brush with copper solvent and then scrubbing the bore with it. He would then dry patch out the dissolved copper which he had just placed up the rifle's bore.

Tenth, if you use the gel, ALWAYS follow it with patches soaked with bore cleaner. Leaving the gel in your bore can result in higher pressures when firing live rounds and could cause injury and damage.

Circle 6076 for More Information

Circle 6077 for More Information

By the way, what was the ineffective cleaning procedure my 1000 yard marksman was using? His armorer forbade him from using anything but cleaning patches soaked in Shooter's Choice Copper Remover. As you've probably guessed, all he'd been doing was polishing the carbon fouling in his bore. It took him and his classmates about three hours for their initial cleaning in the school to cut through literally months of accumulated carbon fouling.

In Conclusion

By remembering that we are dealing with two different types of fouling – the all too familiar carbon and the more insidious copper fouling – you will be able to protect your department's investment in a long rifle, and you will be better equipped to squeeze every bit of potential out of your equipment.

Editor's Note: This topic is taken from John C. Simpson's book, *Sniper's Notebook*. For more information on his book, contact the author at **the-institute@live.com**.

About the Author: John C. Simpson spent five years teaching sniping to Special Forces at the Special Warfare Center in Ft. Bragg, NC, and three years in a Special Forces unit in Germany as a team sniper and the Company Master Sniper, and finally as Chief Instructor at the 10th Special Forces Group Sniper Committee at Fort Devens, MA, before retiring in 1994 as a Sergeant First Class. While at Ft. Devens, he trained police snipers in New York and Ohio as part of Project Northstar. John is currently a Staff Instructor for Snipercraft and the Director of Precision Rifle Programs for the James River Training System. John has written many articles on sniping and precision rifle instruction for publications such as Police and Security News, Journal of Counter-terrorism, Tactical Shooter *and others. He currently writes for the Snipercraft newsletter, as well as continuing to train police and military snipers.*

Dealing with the Media Following an Officer Involved Shooting

The Force Science Institute recently detailed highlights from an ILEETA training conference presentation, "Feeding the Animals," about dealing with the media post-Officer Involved Shooting (OIS). TV news anchor-turned-consultant Rick Rosenthal presented ten tips on OIS publicity:

1. Build a relationship with reporters long before the OIS ever happens, through routine daily interactions which establish credibility on both sides.

2. Be available 24/7, training as many spokespeople as necessary to provide comment during critical incidents. The individual(s) should have rank – and the requisite access to decision-makers, policies, and incident scenes – and also the willingness to take on the job and to be on call as necessary.

3. Protect officers, shooting scenes, and even suspects. Prevent reporters from interviewing the involved officer and don't stage a "perp walk" of suspects. Also, keep reporters from accessing the incident scene; it may not be a crime scene, but needs to be preserved in the same way. Beyond the scene perimeter, however, media must be able to freely move and interact with the department spokesperson.

4. Begin immediately by providing information. The more information an agency releases and the sooner it releases the information, the less willing reporters will be to seek out less knowledgeable and less credible news sources. Information needs to come in audience-friendly packaging, including sound bites and images. Beyond basic facts, reporters also seek to know what police are doing about the incident – not just immediately afterward, but also on an ongoing basis. A good spokesperson should plan to conduct regular briefings: the first no longer than two hours following an incident, and the rest timed to the news cycle. Of course, none of this process should threaten the officer's right to due process.

If police do need to withhold information, the spokesperson should help reporters understand why. Word choices are also important, as a "no comment" can look like stonewalling and police jargon can seem insensitive. Spokespeople should anticipate and be trained for different levels of questioning, from mild to difficult. Police should also plan to videorecord interviews with reporters to help guard against being misquoted.

5. Give facts straight; don't spin them. Spokespeople should never be afraid to say what they don't know and should plan to release information as facts become available – in the meantime, asking reporters and the public not to speculate. Spokespeople further should never speak off-the-record unless it will help the organization AND you trust the reporter.

6. An outside agency (like the state police) may automatically investigate the OIS, but even if it doesn't, think about bringing in an objective third party agency. Not only does it show the public that you honor the truth, it also helps reduce pressure on your agency to provide answers.

7. Respond immediately to any allegations or outright accusations which the victims' relatives or community activists may make. Differentiate between fact and opinion and highlight facts when they are available. Spokespeople should also encourage reporters to ask for comment in advance of reporting allegations.

8. Amateur "citizen" journalists are not bound by the same ethical rules for truthful reporting as professional journalists, so bloggers' mistakes may best be ignored as long as the mainstream media in your community are reporting the facts; likewise, tabloid media – both print and broadcast – even from national networks like HLN.

9. Bad shootings do happen. In these cases, face the situation head-on. Involve the agency's chief in press conferences, acknowledge what happened and empathize with both victims and the community at large. Focus on disciplining the individual officer(s) involved and any changes which need to be made to policy, procedures, and/or training.

10. Be patient with reporters who may not understand the agency or police work in general; educate when necessary and never lose your cool. This way, the story's focus will remain on the issue rather than on an agency's spokespeople.

Finally, it's important to remember that some media interaction will be inevitable with an OIS and not every interaction will be positive, but careful management makes the difference between whether reporters broadcast and print facts or inaccuracies.

For more on Rick Rosenthal, including contact information, see **www.ileeta.org/rick-rosenthal.php**.

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Using Ballistic Shields in CQB Environments

Robert K. Taubert

A ballistic shield is more than just another tool in your tactical toolkit – it provides an entry team with a substantial advantage, if used effectively.

I am an advocate of ballistic shields. They are not only appropriate for law enforcement clearing (slow methodical mode) or safety clears, but, with current weight reductions, can be employed in the slow dynamic technique mode which is a bridge technique between dynamic entries and law enforcement clears.

Slow Dynamic Technique Explained

Today's Level IIIA shields are lighter and more maneuverable. Shield drivers can move rapidly with them and teams can engage in a bridge technique between the two opposite ends of the maneuver spectrum which I call the "Slow Dynamic" technique.

This method of offensive shield tactics was developed by a former member of the FBI's HRT and is based on the "heavy/light side" of dynamic room entries.

Movement is conducted in a "careful hurry" manner and usually does not exceed the speed of a fast walk. I like to get the shields into a room first.

Slow Dynamic Technique Formation

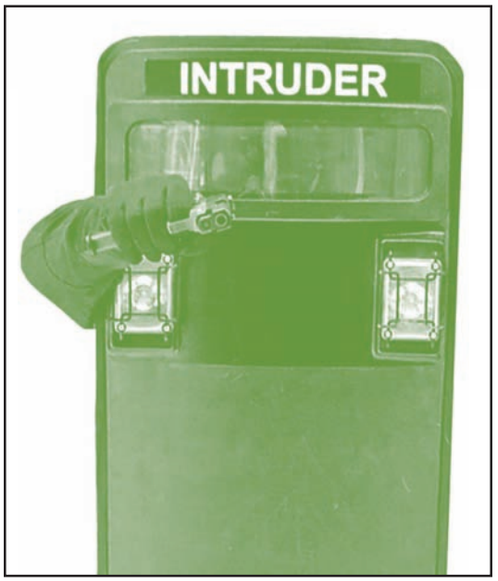
In a four man stack, I set up the formation in the following manner: Shield One (handguns); Shield Two (handguns); Cover Man One (shoulder weapon); and Cover Man Two (shoulder weapon).

If a breacher is required, another team member will perform that task, but could be delegated to Cover Man Two. If the breacher must step across the door to access the locking mechanism and face Shield One, proper hallway security must, of course, be established.

Shield One will stop at the door and wait for the "squeeze" up from the rear to the front on each man's shoulder to signify the stack is ready for entry. Cover Man One can reach around or step out to squeeze the Shield One's arm.

The breacher makes eye contact with Shield Driver One and nods when ready to breach. When ready to make entry, Shield One nods in the affirmative in return.

If a diversionary device is needed to precede the physical entry, Cover Man One will deploy it, usually into the "immediate threat area" just inside the door. Dropping the device within a three foot arc beyond the door's threshold is designed to get the room's occupants to look away from the



Whenever the shield is mounted so that the operator is using its view port, he is blind to obstacles and threats below his restricted field of vision and should be aware of this potential problem. An alert cover man can assist here.

flash and the "fatal funnel," so that at least the first operator can clear the near wall and corner and set up a shooting position before the occupants can recover.

Shield One has complete freedom of movement within the room and will key on the threat and following team members will key on him. Shield One will move aggressively against the threat forcing him to deal with the advancing shield. The threat could be near (shallow) or far away (deep) within the structure. If the use of deadly force is appropriate, the shield driver engages the threat with his laser equipped handgun.

Shield Two enters right on the heels of Shield One and moves opposite from Shield One, focusing on the threat which may, or may not, be on the other side of the room. He must go to the other side and cover that area of the room.

Both shields should not end up on the same side of the room!

In turn, Cover Men will key on their respective shields and, if their shield driver goes deep, they will go shallow into the room and vice versa. If multiple threats are on one side of the room, or the "heavy side," Cover Men will assist their shield driver with appropriate force.

After immediate threats are secured and searched, unencumbered Cover Men can search the remainder of the room. One man can search while the others cover, or the room can be divided in half and both Cover Men can conduct a staggered search to ascertain if any threats remain.

Pivoting with Shield

Shield operators need to be able to change direction and get the shield between them and a threat as quickly as possible. Keep the shield close to your torso. If you let the shield move away from you as you pivot, it will slow down your turn. Do not extend or mount your gun as you turn. Keep everything tight until you confront the threat or you will be slowed down.

The most important aspect of this technique is not to return fire, but to get your portable cover into position rapidly to absorb any hits.

Upside Down and Sideways

When going prone or providing security for a stairway clearing team, consider turning the shield upside down and using the view port from that perspective. In the prone position, it permits you to use the view port, so you don't have to look around the shield and, on the stairs, it provides overhead cover for the lead element on a stairway.

Defensive Shield Tactics

Adversaries can use shields as weapons against careless, unaware, or unprepared officers. Because of their size and weight and marginal methods of one armed vertical and horizontal control, opponents can exert tremendous leverage to gain control over the shield and/or its operator. Shield drivers must not only learn how to handle the protective device in various tactical situations, but also know how to retain it when challenged; use it as a nonlethal impact tool, if required; and, if necessary, to jettison it quickly.

When employing vertical surfaces for cover/concealment, such as the hood of an automobile, place the shield on its side, view port toward your gun hand, and use the vertical window provided by the shield as shown here.

The most important aspect of shield deployment is to be completely aware of the tactical environment and your proximity to hostile or potentially hostile personnel. Maintain your defensive space with command presence, appropriate commands, and assistance from your cover man. Never get into a wrestling match or go to ground with your assailant! Your opponent can use the leverage he can generate to entangle you in its sling, strike with a weapon, or hammer you with it.

You must be prepared and able to react immediately to counter any attempt to acquire control

NEWS

facebook

Pittsburgh Police Get Post-hostage Social Media Training

A September hostage incident in Pittsburgh, in which a suspect used his hostage's computer to post messages to his own Facebook account in a bid for publicity, has led to new training for police. Following criticism that they didn't shut down the account, police will learn when, how and why criminals use sites like Facebook and Twitter (among others), so that they can be better prepared to decide whether to shut down an account or use it to collect information.

Before the suspect's account was closed four hours into the crisis, nearly 700 responses – some from family and friends; others from total strangers – were posted to his status updates. Some of those comforted, but others could have provoked – and all of them could have distracted from police attempts to build trust with the suspect. Social media posts can also be dangerous to officers, if bystanders who are aware of police movements post messages about them.

On the other hand, hostages themselves may use social media to call for help, as a Utah mother did in 2011.

To learn more about the best ways law enforcement agencies and officers can deploy social media, visit **www.iacpsocialmedia.org**.

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The neck strap should be adjusted so that, when dropped, the shield's upper rim hangs just below the level of the operator's eyes. The gap between the shield and the operator's face should be covered by the helmet's face shield.

over your shield. Techniques which can be employed to assist you in doing this include the hand strike, wall pin, and shield uppercut. These methods, as well as others which have proved effective.

Naturally, all of these techniques need to be learned and practiced under controlled conditions before employing them during actual operations.

• Hand strike: If your opponent grabs your shield, one option is to target the bony part of your assailant's hand with the butt of your pistol (finger out of trigger). The hand strike is painful and should cause him to open his hand convulsively, releasing the shield. Immediately follow by ripping the shield back and forth violently if he is also grasping its edge with his other hand, then step back and cover the subject with your sidearm. If this does not work, as in bayonet fighting, immediately counter with another technique, such as a wall pin.

• Wall pin: Should your opponent be proximate to a wall and pulling on your shield, give it to him with a hard wall pin. Do not place your helmet or gun hand against, or at the top of, your shield. The impact, if vigorous enough, could "rattle your cage" or result in loss of your handgun or both.

Instead, turn your body 90 degrees so that your dominant side and handgun are away from the shield. Use your support side shoulder against the shield's back face to make your opponent part of the wallpaper. Violently drive the shield into the subject and pin him solidly to the wall. Order him to "let go" of your shield and have your cover man assist you in disarming or subduing him.

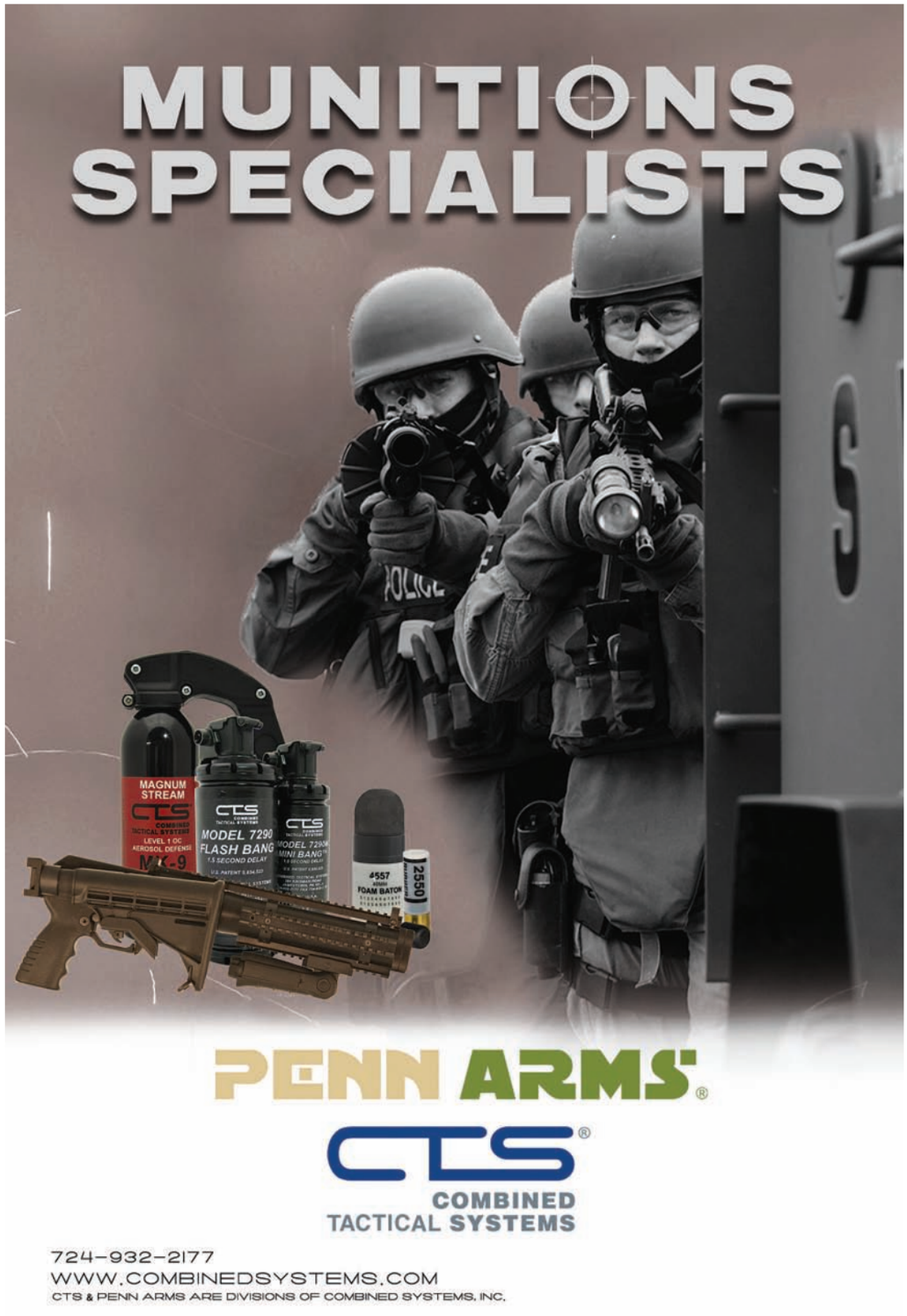
• Shield uppercut: If your opponent attempts to pull your shield down by grabbing the top of it, step into him, lower your center of gravity and drive its edge into his jaw or face. Step back, use appropriate commands and cover him with your firearm. Another technique is to strike his instep or rake the lower edge of the shield over his shins, but that exposes your head to him. Ensure that you maintain control over your handgun and keep it both back and away from the shield.

• Cover man takedown: If, during the struggle over your shield, your opponent is between your shield and your cover man and your cover man is not otherwise engaged, he can strip the subject off the shield either by violently striking the back of the subject's knee with his nondominant foot, applying a choke hold or hair pull, and breaking the subject down to the floor. Again, always try and keep your gun side away from the assailant when engaged in any such activities.

• Shield dump: If your shield is being pulled from you and you cannot retain control, tuck your chin into your chest, bend at the waist and let the sling roll over and off your head. You can either let it go completely or retain contact by holding on with the support hand. Always tuck your chin in on the side that the attack is coming from or remember left side/left shoulder, right side/right shoulder and bend over toward the attacker. This technique will work with a ballistic helmet, but you must tape over the two side face shield attachments to reduce snagging.

Driver Stance: Weaver vs. Isoceles

The Weaver Stance will not work with ballistic shields, so square up in an Isosceles type stance.



Generally, the shield is held in a defensive position by the support arm with the pistol in the dominant hand. I prefer to keep the hand and pistol behind the shield until the pistol is needed. Maintaining a shield mounted pistol throughout the operation is not only fatiguing, but presents the weapon to an adversary.

When needed, the pistol is presented and mounted to eye level so that the sights can be referenced through the ballistic view port. The arm is bent at the elbow, with its crook resting against the shield's vertical edge. The pistol may have to be canted inboard so the sights can be identified.

The Baker Batshield®

The introduction of the flexible Baker Batshield, designed and produced by former NYPD Emergency Services Unit (ESU) Lieutenant Al Baker, has changed some of the dynamics of shield employment. Now, a shield driver can effectively employ a shoulder weapon, as well as a handgun, by placing and resting the weapon in the shield's shallow "V" located on its dorsal edge.

The helmet and ballistic face shield equipped operator looks over the shield's top to acquire threats.

Tactically, this shield may not require a cover man because its unusual configuration permits the operator to employ a superior weapon more effectively. In addition, by looking over the top of the shield while low to the ground, blind spots are reduced.

An operator can raise the gun over the top of the shield and engage threats when using a laser equipped pistol.

Laser Sights

Laser sights reduce arm exposure and the handgun can deliver very effective fire from a below eye level gun mount. Only the hand gripping the gun is exposed and the shooter does not have to see the gun to index it.

In fact, the operator can raise the gun over the top of the shield (periscope style) and engage threats to his front when using a laser equipped pistol. An operator who is moving along a wall on his right side and is reluctant to shift the gun and shield to opposite hands, would be required to step away from the wall to engage targets to his front, possibly exposing the stack to ricochets off the wall. By raising the gun over the top of the shield and tracking the laser to the target, the operator can maintain his "bullet sponge" position.

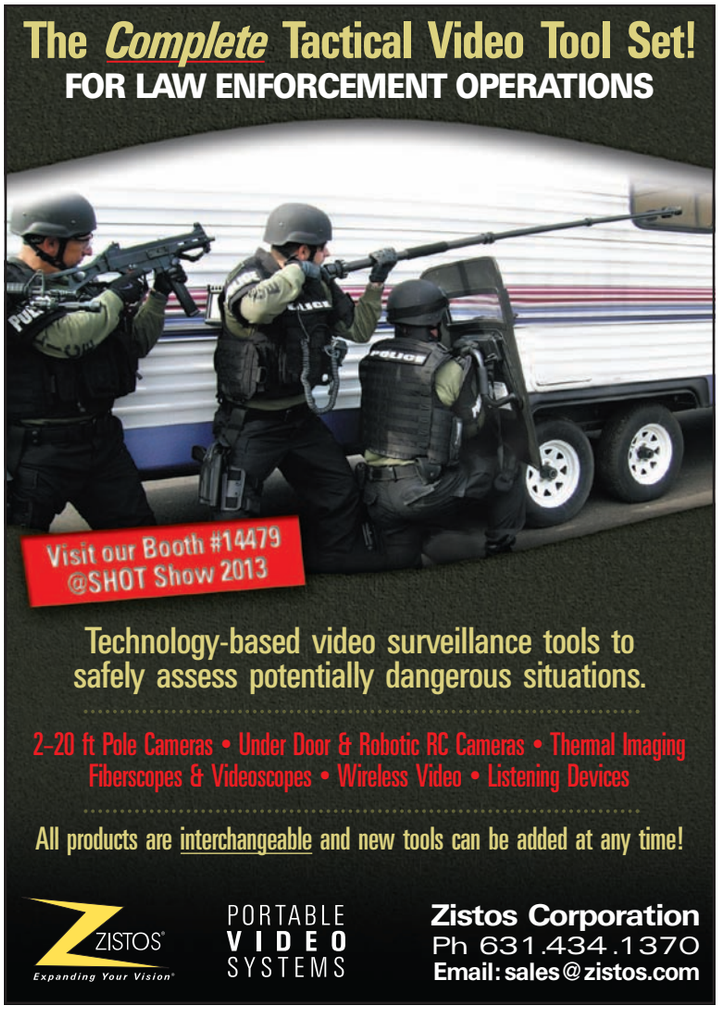
Some lasers have a constant on switch. If using these types of devices, you will need to keep the gun behind the shield until it's needed to avoid potential compromise.

Integrated Illumination System

I also strongly recommend that a ballistic shield be equipped with an integrated white light illumination system. These systems are controlled by the shield driver and can be configured to operate in a number of different modes.

Editor's Note: This topic is taken from Robert Taubert's book, *RATTENKRIEG! The Art and Science of Close Quarters Battle Pistol*. For more information on his book, visit **www.saberpress.com**.

About the Author: Robert K. "Bob" Taubert has been professionally involved in small arms and tactical training for over 50 years. During his time at the FBI Academy, Bob served a s program manager for the Bureau's newly created SWAT teams and, later, participated in the creation and training of the FBI's renowned Hostage Rescue Team (HRT). Bob has trained numerous foreign police SWAT teams for the US Department of State, as well as taught firearms and tactical courses to hundreds of US and allied law enforcement and military personnel.



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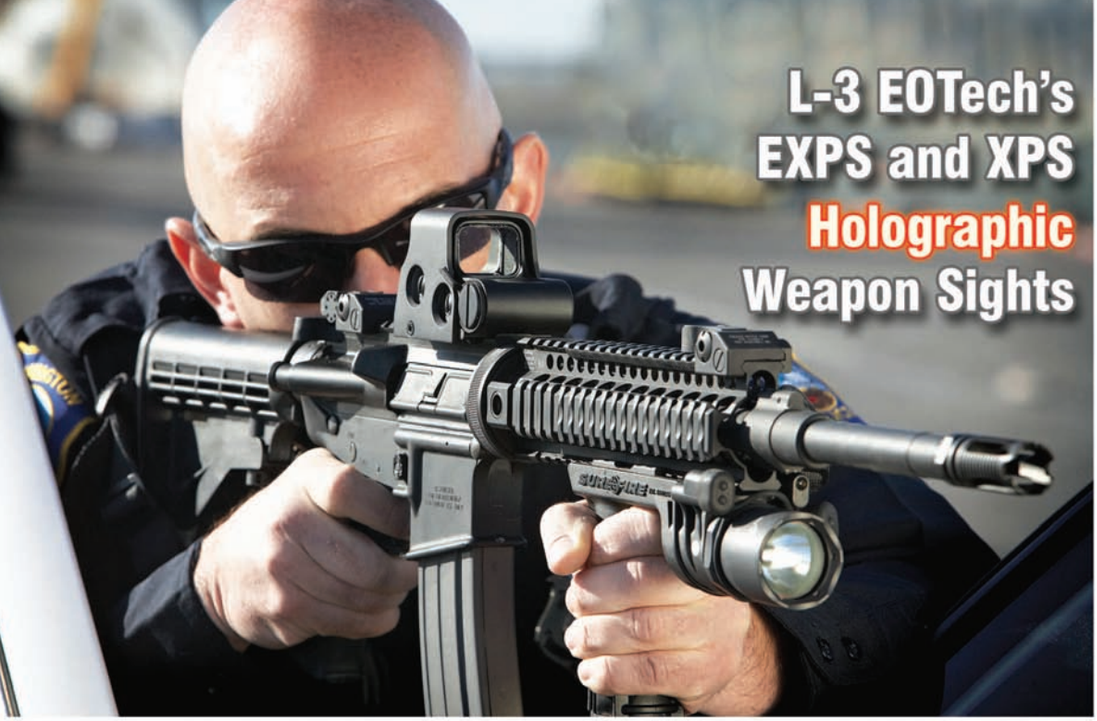

L-3 EOTech's EXPS and XPS Holographic Weapon Sights

Eugene Nielsen

Since the introduction of the first military and law enforcement model in 1999, the L-3 EOTech HWS has proven itself with tactical teams worldwide.

The Holographic Weapon Sight™ (HWS™) was designed to provide the operator with greatly improved shooting performance by achieving a more rapid reticle to target acquisition, unrestricted peripheral vision, and highly accurate shot placement.

The Latest

The Extreme-XPS™, or EXPS™ is the latest HWS from L-3 EOTech. A derivative of the highly successful XPS™, the EXPS has three additional features – left side button positioning; a new adjustable, single quick release throw lever system; and a seven millimeter raised base.

The original XPS was the result of input from operators. Most operators like the battery life of the AA and CR123 battery HWS models, but prefer the size of the N battery sights (511 and 551). With the XPS, L-3 EOTech gave operators just what they were looking for.

XPS stands for Cross Power Source. It gets its name from the way the battery is mounted. The EXPS and XPS are powered by a single, transversely mounted CR123 lithium battery. It provides a battery life consistent with the AA alkaline, but in a body which is shorter and lighter than even the N cell HWS. Another plus to the CR123 battery is that it is used by most tactical lights/weapons lights. The XPS and EXPS have replaced the N battery HWS in the L-3 EOTech lineup.

Longer Life

The average battery life of the EXPS and XPS at brightness level 12 is roughly 500 to 600 hours. This is three times the battery life of the N cell HWS at the same setting. On all models, battery life is reduced at correspondingly higher settings and increased at lower settings. Operational temperatures will also affect battery life.

To conserve battery power, the EXPS and XPS have an auto shutdown at eight hours, programmable to four hours. The reticle retains constant brightness throughout the operational life of the batteries. If the battery is low, the reticle blinks for a few seconds at start-up. Another indication is the reticle blinking during firing on high recoil guns.

Night Vision

Two tactical models of the XPS are being offered by L-3 EOTech – the XPS2 and XPS3. The only difference between the two (aside from price) is that the XPS3 offers Night Vision (NV) capability, while the XPS2 does not. The 2 or 3 refers to the number of switches on the HWS.

The EXPS is available in two models – the EXPS2 and the NV capable EXPS3. The EXPS3 was received by the author for evaluation.

The EXPS and XPS are practically identical in size. They are shorter in overall length (3.5" EXPS and 3.75" XPS) than the N battery HWS (4"). It also has a shorter base (2.75") than the N battery HWS (4"). The shorter base provides the operator with more rail space for BUIS (Back Up Iron Sights), magnifiers or NV.

The XPS and EXPS mount to any one inch Weaver/Picatinny (MIL-STD-1913) rail, with proprietary integral mounting platforms. A variety of mounting platforms are supported, including mounts for the MP5; UMP; M16/AR15; M4, Ruger® Mini-14®; and Remington®, Benelli®, and Mossberg® tactical shotguns. The XPS-RF has an integrated 3/8" dovetail mount (not compatible with one inch Weaver or 1913 rails).

New Mounting System

As previously mentioned, the EXPS features a new adjustable throw lever mounting system. The XPS is installed and removed with a single, slotted thumbscrew. The EXPS utilizes a proprietary quick release system which was developed by one of L-3 EOTech's suppliers. Both mounts have a 2 MOA return to zero.

The new, single quick release system on the EXPS has all of the advantages of an A.R.M.S. throw lever, plus it is adjustable to the wide variety of rail tolerances which are out there. It allows the operator to quickly remove and/or remount the EXPS on multiple weapon platforms without loss of zero. The EXPS has a seven millimeter raised base, offering iron sight access.

Windage and elevation adjustments on the EXPS and XPS are easily made via separate click adjustment dials on the side of the housing. The adjustment dials are grooved with a slotted screw head. A specialized tool isn't necessary to make adjustments – a coin or cartridge case works well for this purpose.

Each click will change the bullet impact point by 0.50 MOA. The adjustment dials are mounted flush with the machined housing to prevent accidental changes in the point of aim.

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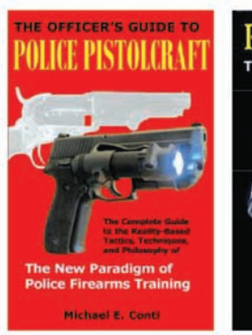

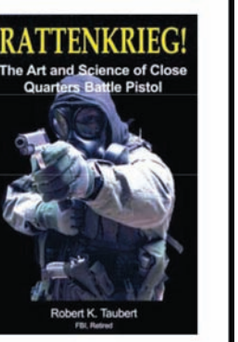

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Durable HUD

The Heads-Up Display (HUD) is constructed of hardened, three layer, shatterproof laminate glass which is 3/16" thick and quite durable. In testing, it took several hard hits with a ball-peen hammer to break a test sample. Additional protection for the HUD is provided by a roll bar type hood. The optical cavity is sealed and enclosed with a state-of-the-art aerospace composite, providing waterproof and fogproof operation.

In holography, all of the information required to reconstruct the reticle image is recorded everywhere in the HUD window. If the window is obstructed by mud, snow, rain, etc., or even if the laminated windows are shattered, the HWS remains fully operational, with point of aim/impact being maintained. This is not possible with any other optic.

The battery cap and latch are eliminated on the EXPS and XPS. They have been replaced with a simple O-ring tethered cap. The new design provides better sealing of the battery compartment and prevents the possible loss of the battery cap.

The battery compartment on the EXPS and XPS is separated from the base. This allows it to hover over the delta ring of M16/AR15 series rifles. This design allows you to mount the EXPS and XPS further forward on the upper receiver rail, freeing up additional rail space.

The XPS™ and EXPS™ are powered by a single, transversely mounted CR123 lithium battery. It provides a battery life consistent with the AA alkaline, but in a body which is shorter and lighter than even the N cell HWS™.

Control Switches

As a result of input from military SOF operators, the switches on the XPS (and all current production L-3 EOTech 550 series HWS models – M552, M553, M556 and EOLAD IV) now extend roughly 1/8 inch from the rear of the housing. First introduced in 2004 on the M552, the redesigned switches provide tactile operational control – even when heavy gloves are employed. The controls on the M511, M512, and earlier production M550 series, are flush to the rear of the housing of the HWS.

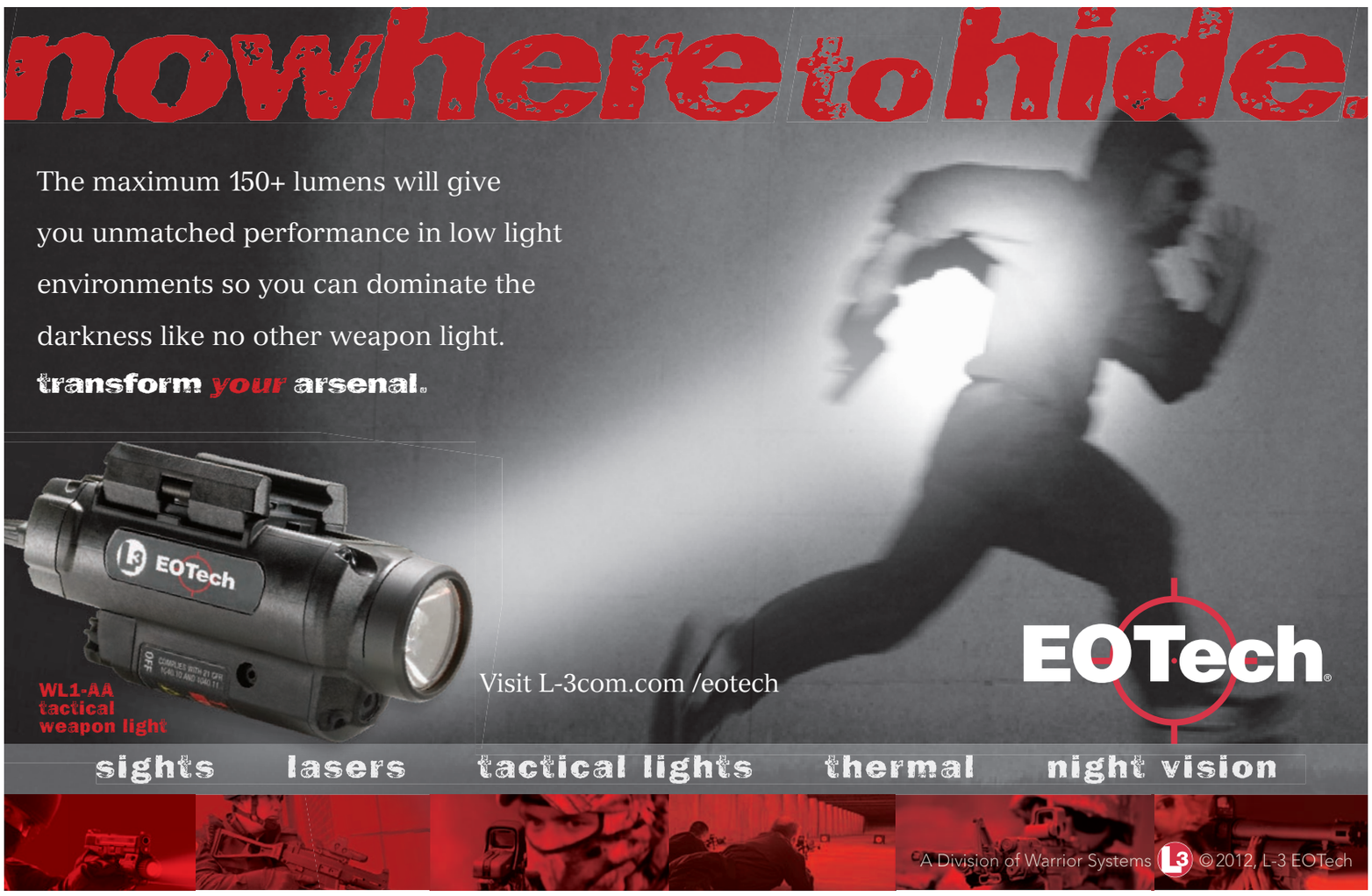
As mentioned, the EXPS differs from the XPS in that the buttons are mounted on the left side instead of the rear of the sight. Left side button positioning was first introduced on the L-3 EOTech 556. This is much better positioning if magnification or NV will be employed, or any other equipment which takes up vital rail space.

Although mounted on the left side, the EXPS also features the redestined tactile switches. The buttons are mounted flush with the side of the protective hood on the sight to prevent inadvertent operation.

Settings

There are 20 normal brightness settings on the EXPS and XPS. They are easily scrolled through using up and down arrow controls. The brightness range of the latest generation HWS, including the EXPS and XPS, has been increased to 146,000:1, brightest to lowest, greatly enhancing the low light performance of the sight. The sight automatically returns to the default setting of 12 anytime it is turned on.

The reticles can easily be seen against light targets in desert, tundra or snow covered environments, as well as in extreme low light conditions,



without washing out the target scene. There isn't any visible muzzle side signature whatsoever under conditions of normal use.

The EXPS3 and XPS3 have ten additional NV settings, in addition to the 20 normal settings, providing maximum flexibility to the operator when employed in tandem with NV. Conventional red dot sights only have one or two night vision settings which are not enough to adequately meet the variances in ambient lighting environments, NV intensifier tube sensitivities, and sensitivities of the human eye which will be encountered in an operational environment.

The EXPS3 and XPS3 feature a NV switch which allows the operator to instantly drop the reticle's brightness to the NV setting, eliminating any halo effect or blooming of the NV device. The NV contrast ratio is 10,000,000:1 with the NV switch engaged. The operator can instantly toggle back and forth from the NV to the normal mode. All NV models are undetectable by NV surveillance when in the NV mode.

Options

The XPS may be ordered with any one of three different reticle patterns. These include the popular 65 MOA ring with a single 1 MOA aiming dot, a single 1 MOA aiming dot, and a 65 MOA ring with two 1 MOA aiming dots.

The EXPS is available in one of two reticle options: 0-65 MOA circle with 1 MOA aiming dot or 2-65 MOA circle with two 1 MOA aiming dots. The latter reticle is calibrated for the M4 carbine, but compatible with any weapon platform and usable with, or without, magnification. The two 1 MOA aiming dots are calibrated for standard military 5.56mm ammo at 0-300 meters and 500 meters, respectively.

Operator with L-3 EOTech XPS™ and G23.FTS 2nd Gen Magnifier – the design of the XPS and EXPS™ allows them to hover over the delta ring of M16/AR15 series rifles. This allows you to mount the EXPS and XPS further forward on the upper receiver rail, freeing up additional rail space.

All of the optical surfaces on an HWS are flat. They're treated with a scratch-resistant, anti-reflective coating to eliminate any additional muzzle side signature due to reflective glare. There isn't any need for a glare elimination ("kill flash") filter.

Bottom Line

The XPS and EXPS are both stellar performers. They are everything which operators have come to expect from an HWS and more. The EXPS and XPS give you all of the capabilities of the HWS, but in a more compact size which doesn't sacrifice battery life. The EXPS improves upon the XPS, making a superb design even better. It may well be the ultimate optic for CQB.

About the Author: Eugene Nielsen is a private consultant and a former police officer.

For more information, contact L-3 EOTech, 1201 East Ellsworth Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48108; phone (734) 741-8868; or visit the Web site at **www.eotech-inc.com.**

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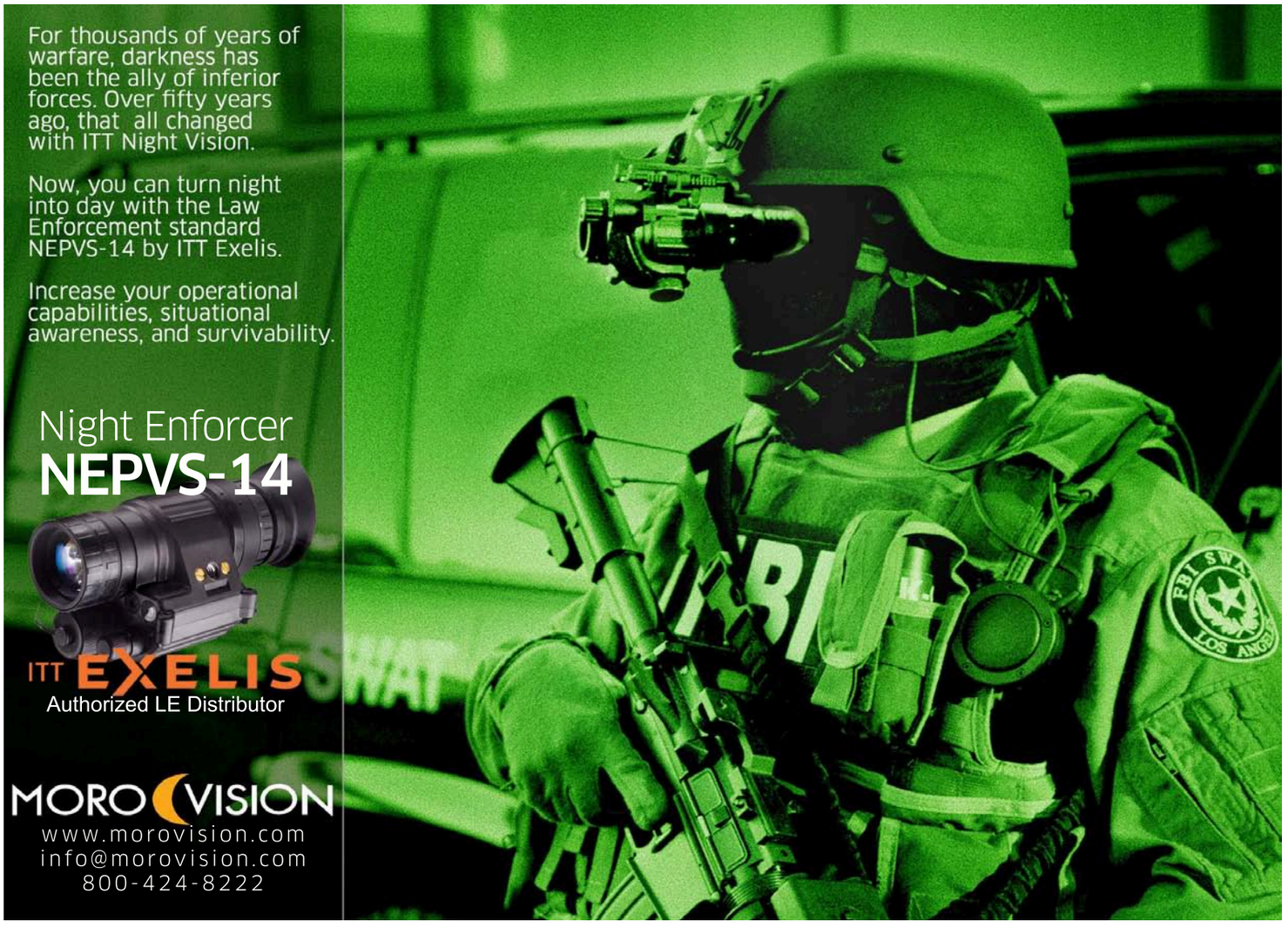

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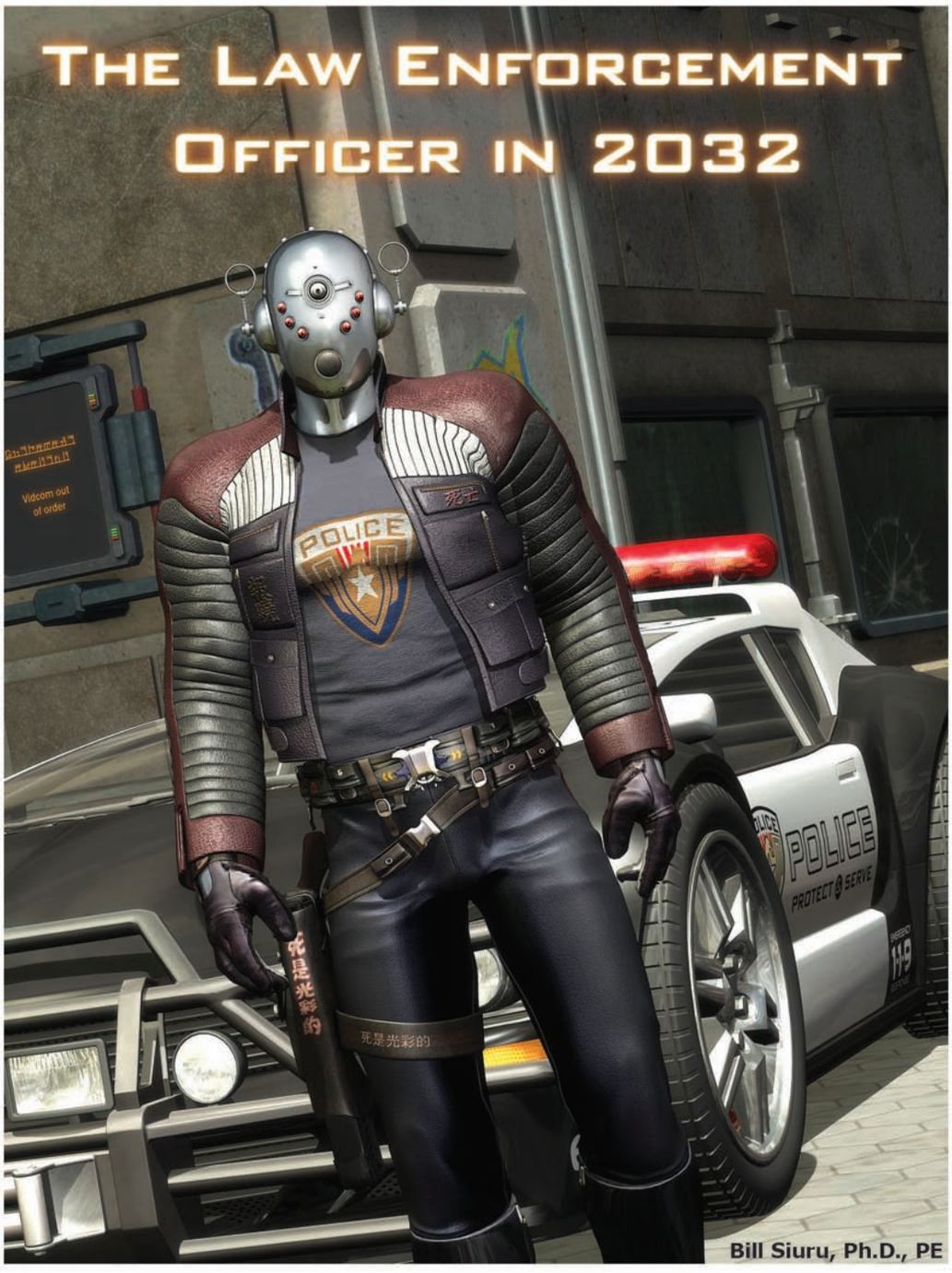


Twenty years ago, would you have envisioned all of the high-tech devices available to law enforcement today? How about twenty years into the future?

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate has looked into its crystal ball to identify future gaps between requirements and capabilities and possible technologies which could fill these gaps.

The "crystal ball" was focus groups of expert first responders. They identified and prioritized the needs of first responders to help make sure that the appropriate technology is available to meet future disasters, terrorist attacks and other incidents a generation from now. The results are summed up in a report called, *Project Responder 3: Toward the First Responder of the Future*, an update of the previous *Project Responder* studies conducted in 2004 and 2008. While the focus groups looked at the needs of all first responders – law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics and emergency managers – we will highlight technologies of particular interest to law enforcement.

This *Project Responder 3* study also provides a glimpse into the first responder of the future. The law enforcement officer of the future may operate in a much more technology driven environment. Numerous data systems and information management tools could help officers manage the flow of information, but it could result in "information overload" and data incompatibility, as well as privacy and civil liberties protection concerns.

First responders could wear reality glasses like these being developed by Google to get information pertinent to an operation in real time.

Officers could face new types of crimes involving technology, like identity theft and Internet fraud. Future law enforcement officers may utilize a vast law enforcement information network providing real-time data. Behavior modeling tools could anticipate threats and a "forward information support system" would provide instant notification of threats, better scanning of people, and real-time tracking of resources – all based on up-to-date intelligence.

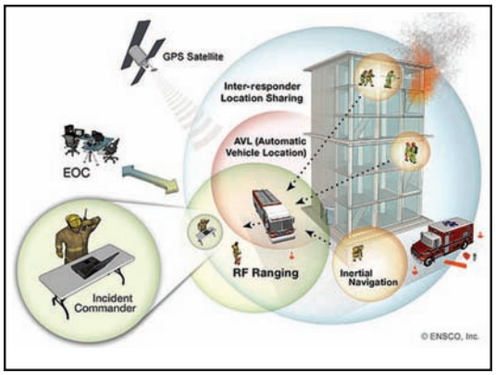
Improvements to the physical and mental readiness of the law enforcement officer could be a game changer. Physically, monitoring and improving the health and wellness of officers would enhance police safety. Mental readiness could improve officers' ability to respond to new and more complex challenges. This would require improvements to officer training and education which is especially important for less experienced personnel. Police doctrine would shift toward prevention and predeployment, including preidentified deployment teams of trained personnel who move more readily across jurisdictional lines. This would be similar to fire department mutual aid programs.

The study's participants identified 40 capabilities which are necessary to fill existing and projected gaps. Among these 40 capabilities, responders identified 12 of the most important capabilities. These priorities can help guide research and development investments.

The four priorities which represent capability gaps of the highest importance include:

- Readily accessible, high-fidelity simulation tools to support training and exercises in incident management and response;
- The ability to know the location of responders and their proximity to risks and hazards in real time;
- The ability to communicate with responders in any environmental conditions (including through barriers, inside buildings, and underground); and
- The ability to remotely monitor the tactical actions and progress of all responders involved in the incident in real time.

Four more needs were identified as very high priorities:



This personnel navigation, locating and tracking system, from ENSCO, Inc., can be used to locate responders and their proximity to risks and hazards in real time.

• Communications systems which are hands-free, ergonomically optimized, and can be integrated into personal protective equipment;

• Protective clothing and equipment for all first responders which protects against multiple hazards;

• The ability to detect, monitor, and analyze passive and active threats and hazards at incident scenes in real time; and

• The ability to identify what resources are available to support a response (including resources not traditionally involved in response), what their capabilities are, and where they are in real time.

The third tier of priorities include:

• The ability to identify trends, patterns, and important content from large volumes of information from multiple sources (including nontraditional sources) to support incident decision making;

• The ability to rapidly identify hazardous agents and contaminants;

• The ability to monitor the status of resources and their functionality in current conditions in real time; and

• The ability to remotely scan an incident scene for signs of life and decomposition to identify and locate casualties and fatalities.

Future training could rely on more virtual training in lieu of more expensive live exercises. The required technology currently existing in video games and flight simulators could incorporate realistic emergency response policies, missions, and equipment. Available on desktops, laptops, smartphones, or tablets means that hundreds, or thousands, of responders at many different locations and in different jurisdictions could interactively train to experience and overcome the complications of different missions, incompatible equipment, and communications.

Current communications systems usually require a push to talk attached speaker to broadcast received communications which is difficult, or even dangerous, while holding a suspect at gunpoint or chasing a suspect down a street. One solution is "hands-free" radios with voice activation. Also, communications gear will be fully integrated with personal protective equipment and designed to the specific ergonomic requirements of different response disciplines.

Some solutions could come from technologies already used commercially. For example, Radio Frequency IDentification (RFID) tags and bar codes, like those used by FedEx® and Walmart to track packages and merchandise, could be used to identify resource availability, capabilities, current conditions and locations in real time. It could also provide alerts when supplies hit predetermined levels and even automatically reorder supplies.

Joint intelligence fusion centers spread throughout the U.S. develop analytic assessments and products, as well as collect and assess incident specific intelligence from multiple sources. These same techniques could be used to identify crime trends, patterns, and important content from large volumes of information from multiple sources, including nontraditional sources, to support incident decision making.

Drones could detect, monitor, and analyze passive and active threats and hazards in real time.

For the complete report, see **http://www.firstresponder.govMiscellaneous%20PDFs/ProjectResponder3Report.pdf**.

About the Author: Bill Siuru is a retired USAF colonel. He has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Arizona State University. His military assignments included teaching engineering at West Point, commander of the research laboratory at the U.S. Air Force Academy and Director of Engineering at Wright-Patterson AFB. For the past 35 years, he has been writing about automotive, aviation and technology subjects.

NEWS

Study Finds Adolescents Not Significantly Harmed by TASER® Use

A new study, "Conducted Electrical Weapon (TASER) Use Against Minors," published in the medical journal, *Pediatric Emergency Care*, has found that no significant or lasting damage is done to minors TASERed during confrontations with police. The study was the first of its kind to address what was believed to be juveniles' vulnerability to injury from TASERs.

None of the 100 adolescents studied experienced injuries worse than superficial puncture wounds, abrasions or lacerations experienced during falls or resistance to force; only 20 of the juveniles were hurt at all. The eight minors who were hospitalized usually needed psychiatric evaluation or detox. None of the subjects experienced cardiac symptoms or altered mental status as a result of being TASERed.

Researchers do recommend continued studies of young children, teens and other small stature subjects (those weighing less than the subjects' average 168 pounds and standing shorter than the average 5' 8"), even though they believe the need for TASERs will continue to be rare during confrontations between police and these subjects; smaller people are generally easily apprehended.

To read the research, visit **http://tinyurl.com/9q2q43f**.

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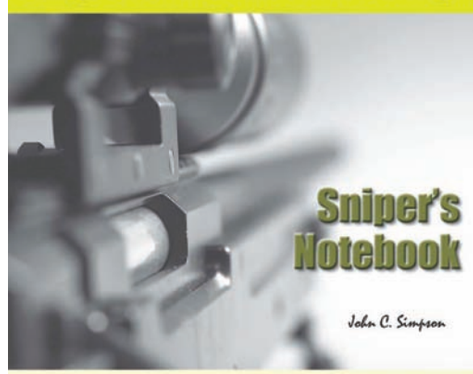

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Circle 6092 for More Information

In Search of Intelligent Life

James L. McClinton, Ph.D

"WHAT DO YOU MEAN THIS CREDIT CARD ISN'T ANY GOOD? IT'S YOUR CARD!"

Police in Miami Beach say a homeless man broke into a car, stole a credit card and then tried to use it to buy a beer – from the very same bartender to whom the card belonged! Officers cracked the case when the 53-year-old man handed the card to the bartender who took his order. The bartender noticed he had just been handed his own credit card and called Miami Beach police. The man was charged with credit card fraud and theft and placed in the Miami-Dade County Jail. Police say he told them he found the credit card on the ground. *(So, the crook tried to convince police that it was okay to use the card because he had "found it on the ground"?)*

"But, Your Honor, they told me it was a 'cloaking device'!"... A 30-year-old woman was charged with 17 recent burglaries around Somerset, Massachusetts. The local police chief gave the media an interesting detail about the thief, telling them that she is possibly the only offender who ever lived who didn't seem to understand that, since she was wearing a GPS ankle monitor (from an earlier arrest), all 17 of her break-ins had been tracked. *(Poor thing…imagine her disappointment when she learned her pretty ankle monitor would be replaced by ugly shackles!)*

There was just something about her mug shot which convinced him that she was the one he wanted to spend the rest of his life with (well, less 90 days and good behavior)... A woman shopper in a Family Dollar store in San Antonio, Texas, somehow reasoned that she was not bound by the prices affixed to merchandise and attempted to acquire a few items at no cost. But, store employees caught our shoplifting friend and detained her. Feeling protective, her boyfriend, who was watching from the getaway car, saw that she was having problems and went inside to help the love of his life. Employees let the two get away, but quickly called the police and gave a description of them and their car. Officers quickly spotted them and placed them under arrest. The loving couple was transported downtown and, while being booked, the boyfriend decided it was the perfect time to declare his love for his criminally inclined girlfriend and to propose marriage – she accepted. The "happily ever after" part remains to be seen. *(True love knows no boundaries – especially after you've been granted parole.)*

The little chocolate mint on the pillow brings them back every time!... When a trio of drug dealers checked out of their motel room in Milford, Connecticut, they managed to leave behind a little something – actually, they left behind a lot of something. For reasons unknown, these geniuses left $50,000 worth of heroin in the room. Motel employees found the drugs and called the cops. While conducting their investigation, the officers were pleasantly surprised when the trio showed up and asked if they could rent the same room again. The officers were alerted and gave them another room – in a county facility. *(It's sort of like "The Three Stooges"!)*

It will be easy to spot – it's the truck with the bumper sticker which says, "HONK IF YOU SMOKE CRACK!"... In Orchard Park, New York, a man called the police and reported that his truck had been stolen. But, for reasons known only to the complainant, he gave the officers a lot more information than they expected to receive from him. The man told them that he had been smoking crack cocaine with a prostitute. He said he gave her $200 and the keys to his truck and told her to go buy more drugs. That was the last time he saw her and he wanted his truck back. He won't need it for a while – inmates are not allowed to drive! *(Someone must have seen* Pretty Woman *one too many times.)*

Parents who insist on giving their children nothing but the best typically end up with nothing but the worst!... A 22-year-old man walked into a convenience store in Brandon, Mississippi, flashed a fake gun and demanded cash. But, as fate would have it, who should walk into the store at that very moment – yep, his mother. Mama had come to the store to do a little shopping, but when she saw what was going on, she grabbed the fake gun and shoved her son out the door. She then tried to explain to the clerk that her son was only "playing." But, the clerk didn't want to hear her version of what had happened. The failed robber was arrested shortly afterwards. *(He's probably too old to still be playing "cops and robbers.")*

The only thing Dad and Junior overlooked was a hot branding iron on the hindquarter of this crook!... A 35-year-old man was charged with attempted auto theft in Tulsa, Oklahoma, after jumping into a van and fleeing. The owners – a young man and his father – both took up the chase and eventually caught the crook. Later, the young man said, "Dad and I both rodeo." When police arrived, they found that the crook had been neatly hog-tied and secured to a fence. Explained the young man, "Lately, I've been having bad luck keeping calves tied [in rodeos], so [Dad] did the tying up." *(Happy trails, partner. Now it's time for this little "doggie" to get along!)*

This is what happens to the human brain after spending too much time at 33,000 feet!... After a 69-year-old retired Delta® Air Lines pilot approached security at the International Airport in Portland, Oregon, he asked what he should do with the pistol he was carrying. Not surprisingly, TSA officials would not let him through the security checkpoint with his gun. The Port of Portland police said the retired pilot was told to go to the ticket counter. But, he instead went into the lobby where TSA personnel say they saw him drop the pistol into a planter. The retired pilot then returned and tried to pass through the security screening process. TSA notified the police who retrieved the weapon, found it was loaded, and arrested the man on charges of reckless endangerment. The accused allegedly told the police that he had hidden the pistol in the pot so he could retrieve it when he returned from his trip. *(This guy used to fly jet airliners?)*

New Technology

The Jimmy™

A new personal tactical pry bar was recently introduced by Broco. Made from heat-treated hardened steel with high density foam under a wrapped cord grip for comfort, the **Jimmy** has a striking surface at the back end and a lanyard attaching loop. The **Jimmy** has many uses including forcing open interior doors, windows, breaking glass and so on. It can also be used to get under the flange of a security door to make setting a Halligan easier. The tool is only 11" long and it slides into the Molle on a vest.

Circle 6094 for More Information

New Pocket Organizer

Maxpedition®'s new **Beefy™ Pocket Organizer** can be dropped into, or attached to, your backpack or bag. Its full clamshell opening reveals a spacious main compartment which contains 15 elastic dividers and two large slip and zipper pockets. It is available in black, OD green, khaki, and foliage.

Circle 6095 for More Information

New Remote Control Spotlight

Whelen Engineering has introduced professional grade LED lighting in a 360° remote control spotlight ideal for law enforcement applications. The **Pan & Tilt™ Series** features wired or wireless control and all the heavy-duty attributes of LED lighting which make this an adaptable resource. Proportional push-button control provides quick and easy operation for panning 210° left or right, 90° upwards, or 20° down. The spotlight returns to the home position when turned off; the LEDS provide 1475 lumens while drawing only two amps. The spotlight can be permanent or flange mounted; the base and dome are polycarbonate.

Circle 6096 for More Information

New Helmet for Women

Schuberth North America has introduced the **P100 Crowd Control Helmet** which protects against impact, penetration, chemicals, fire, and ballistic threats and offers the highest level of protection available for violent situations. Engineers have added innovations to keep officers protected against all known potential attacks. Research led to the development of additional smaller shell sizes to offer the same level of protection for women. The **P100 Helmet** as available in three sizes to fit heads as small as 5 3/4".

Circle 6097 for More Information

New Night Vision Goggle System

Morovision Night Vision is now offering the **ITT Exelis DSNVG**, the first fused, dual sensor night vision goggle system. This system combines an image intensified tube and infrared microbolometer into a compact monocular. A separate battery pack provides power for helmet mounted or handheld use. The **DSNVG** will mount on an ACH helmet and provides flip up, tilt, and fore/aft adjustment; left/right eye use; and quick disconnect from the helmet. It weighs less than two pounds (including helmet mount and batteries).

Circle 6099 for More Information

New Under Vehicle Inspection Sled

Zistos Corporation has introduced an **Under Vehicle Inspection Sled** for searching under vehicles when the ground surface is soft or uneven. The **Sled** is available as an option for any Zistos Vehicle Inspection System and is fully compatible with existing systems. The **Sled** has no arms or wheels to get stuck – it glides like a sled across any surface. With a camera attached, the video image provides much greater detail than with mirrors. The **Sled** can be used day or night and in inclement weather.

Circle 6098 for More Information

New Folding Knife

The first knife from Maxpedition®, the **Ferox™ Folding Knife**, features a sleek jet-black blade with optimal point and edge geometries to provide a high degree of control during precise cutting tasks. It has an ergonomic fiber reinforced nylon handle and a fast action opening flipper, and is available with a plain or serrated edge.

Circle 6100 for More Information

New Load-Out Duffel

The Maxpedition® **Growler™ Load-Out Duffel** has an eye pleasing exterior and a seemingly compact cylindrical profile. Available in black and khaki-foliage, its spacious two-way gusset allows you to organize its internal space in a variety of ways which enable you to conceal larger than expected items.

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New Blueguns with Built-in Laser

Now available from Ring's Manufacturing is the **Trigger Fired Built-in Laser** on select handguns and the Remington® 870 shotgun. Press the trigger on these Blueguns and the **laser** is fired, bringing the reality of firing a gun with the Super Bright Red Laser on target!

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